The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1886.

The Week.

THE Senate has done well in passing the bill to repeal the Tenure-of-Office Act. The House will of course concur, and the act will soon disappear from the statute book. Its passage in Andrew Johnson's time was only justifiable as a sort of "military necessity," and it ought to have been repealed long ago. The whole drift of public opinion in recent years is towards centring responsibility upon the Executive, and freedom to remove a subordinate is an essential part of such responsibility.

The artlessness of Senator Aldrich's proposition respecting the disposition to be made of the sugar duties is its most impressive feature. The proposition is that the President be requested to enter into negotiations with various sugar-producing countries, with a view to reciprocal trade on the basis of our admitting sugar free of duty and their admitting American manufactures free of duty. The naïveté of this plan is two-fold. It presumes, in the first place, that the sugar-producing countries (Spain, for example) do not understand the exigencies of American finance which are driving the protectionists on to the reduction or repeal of the sugar duties willy-nilly. It presumes, also, that the Louisiana planters will allow the tariff on a Southern product to be used as a makeweight to secure advantages in foreign markets for Northern products. Now the Spaniards are not exactly fools. They know that they have only to wait a short time until our 3 per cent. bonds are actually paid off, in order to secure without reciprocity all that Mr. Aldrich offers them with reciprocity. The Louisiana planters are not only not fools, but they are alert and active. They might submit to a repeal of the sugar duties pure and simple, on the score of overruling necessity, but if such a measure should come to them coupled with a plan to secure further protection for manufacturers by means of a bargain with foreign sugar-producers, they would "make Rome howl." It should be added that Mr. Aldrich himself is not a fool. He must be aware that his plan has no chance whatever of being carried into effect. He intends probably to bring the sugar duties up for general debate. To this there can be no objection.

The House Committee on Territories has amended the Senate bill which provides for the admission of Washington Territory as a State, by adding a section to admit Montana as a State. It is to be hoped that the Senate will not concur. Montana is not fit to become a State. In 1880 it had a population of only 39,159, of whom 1,663 were Indians and 1,765 Chinese, and it cast 14,170 votes. In 1886 it cast 32,262 votes, which, on the same ratio of votes to population, would give it about 90,000 people now. It is claimed in the Territory that the population is 110,000, but even that total would not justify Congress in giving such a frontier community a Congressman, two Senators, and three votes in the Electoral College, which might turn the scales in a Presidential election. The House joins Montana to Washington because the former has usually gone Democratic and the latter Republican, and for the same reason the Senate may doubtless be trusted to refuse its consent. Partisanship, of course, ought to have no place in such matters, but it always does, and sometimes when the two branches of Congress are of opposite politics it serves the public interest, as promises to be the case with Montana.

The politicians who some time ago divided among themselves the Senatorships, Governorship, and other snug offices of the proposed State of South Dakota are growing impatient at the refusal of Congress to do its share toward carrying through their scheme, and they now talk of setting their State running without waiting for the sanction of the Federal Government. The Constitutional Convention met at Huron on Wednesday last, and adopted an ordinance rescinding that section of the Constitution which forbids action as a State until after admission to the Union, and adopted resolutions proposing that if Congress does not meanwhile make South Dakota a State, it shall become a State without Congressional sanction a year hence. Nothing could do more to convince the country that the division scheme is a political dodge than the adoption of such a programme as this. These politicians and their Eastern sympathizers make a great ado about the hardship to which the people of Dakota are subjected, because Congress will not admit the lower half of the Territory as a State. The hardship can be ended whenever these politicians will consent to the essential preliminary to the constitution of any State—that is, a declaration by the people at a popular election on the fundamental question whether they want to come into the Union as one State or two. Evidence multiplies as time passes that a majority of the voters favor having only a single State, and the refusal of the South Dakota politicians to allow an election upon the question strengthens this impression. Such a thing was never heard of as the admission of a State without an election which showed that the people of the Territory favored the scheme of the proposed State, and the House of Representatives would fail in its duty if it should permit Dakota to be split in two without the evidence of a popular vote that the people of Dakota favor the division.

We invite the attention of all occupants of "Chairs of Journalism" to the extremely able way in which the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* has got out of its awkward mistake about a recent appointment. We have seen nothing so perfect in this branch of journalism for a long time. The editor was in a very trying position. He had charged that T. S. Dabney, recently appointed an examiner in the Pension Bureau, had been a Confederate guard in Andersonville prison during the war, and he had published the charge under a long series of bloody-shirt headlines, among which were: "Cleveland's Insults—To the Heroic Veterans of the Union Army—Horrors of the Rebellion Reviewed.' He had followed this up for several days with columns of "Glimpses of Life in the Prison Pen," had begun to talk about a mass-meeting of indignant citizens to protest against the outrage, and had finally capped the climax with a whole page of illustrations of Andersonville prison, "where so many Union prisoners were tortured and where hundreds were virtually murdered." The day before the illustrations appeared, the discovery was announced that the paper had got hold of the wrong Dabney, and that the one who had received the appointment was only eleven years old when the war broke out; but the editor did not suppress his pictures on that account. He published them on Sunday. Then on Wednesday he put forth the following explanation, which we unhesitatingly pronounce a journalistic masterpiece:

> "T. S. Dabney, Medical Examiner, doesn't seem to be the man the soldiers who survived the horrors of Andersonville took him for. He says:
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> "'I never was enlisted in any army; that I never was at Andersonville in my life; that I never served as a guard anywhere; that I never fired a gun at any person in my life.'
>
> "It is pleasing to learn that Dr. Dabney is a man of peace. The statement that he corrects has at least given the country at large the opportunity to know what the survivors of the prison-pens think of the Andersonville administration."

Now observe carefully the artistic perfection of that statement. In the opening sentence the editor slyly slips the whole responsibility for the blunder from his own shoulders to those of the "soldiers who survived the horrors of Andersonville." This lets him out and at the same time keeps the horrors before the reader's eye. Then he eludes the whole series of point-blank denials in Dr. Dabney's communication by expressing his delight at learning that he is a man of peace, as if this had been a matter of real doubt. Then he closes the subject with another skilful allusion to the horrors as being, after all, a fine subject for public contemplation. Not for a moment does he yield to any weak promptings to apologize either to his readers, or to the President, or to Dr. Dabney, which a less experienced journalist might succumb to. That would be very "unjournalistic," and would betray the hand of a novice at once. There is, in fact, in this brief quotation from the *Commercial Gazette* ample material for an entire lecture on journalism, and the student who should master the whole art of it would possess everything that a "Chair of Journalism" would be able to teach him.

In his Pennsylvania speeches about the condition of negro laborers at the South, Mr. Blaine, who has never been in the South since he taught school in Kentucky, alleged that they lived in "huts" which cost only $9 apiece. Congressman Kelley of Pennsylvania, who has been making an investigation, contributes this interesting statement of facts bearing upon the point in question: "Mr. Perry of Albany has bought ten acres

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at South Pittsburgh, Ala., upon which to erect stove works, and twenty upon which to set up dwellings for his operatives. He brought with him the plans for both shops and houses. After he had seen the quarters occupied by operatives already employed [negroes], he decided that his own plans would have to be revised in order to bring them up to the standard reached by his predecessors, and they were accordingly changed for the better." It is plainly high time for Mr. Blaine to declare that the stenographers misreported him.

In every way the verdict against McQuade is most encouraging. The jury agreed at once, without argument or discussion, and many of them have said, since they were dismissed, that their minds were made up before either the arguments of the counsel or the Recorder's charge had been made. They were convinced by the evidence. This was due to the admirable way in which the case against McQuade was presented, and for this Mr. Delancey Nicoll, the Assistant District Attorney, is entitled to the chief praise. In fact, the conviction is the result of his intelligent and persevering labors extending over many months, for he has had charge of all the Aldermanic cases, and has secured all the evidence which has been collected. McQuade's conviction must inevitably be followed by that of the three other members of the original thirteen in the "combine" who are within the jurisdiction of the courts, namely, Reilly, Cleary, and O'Neil. Two others, McLoughlin and Kenney, are dead, Dempsey, De Lacy, and Sayles are in Canada, McCabe is insane, Duffy and Fullgraff have turned State's evidence, and Jaehne is in prison.

Jacob Sharp's reasons for asking to have his trial take place elsewhere than in this city amount simply to an elaborate plea to be taken to some place where he is not so well known. In other words, he is anxious to get away from his own reputation. He says the newspapers all call him "Jake," and all take it for granted that he is guilty of bribery. This, then, is the reputation which he has built up for himself in this community after a long and active life. So strong is the feeling about him, he says, that as soon as he becomes interested in any project it is at once spoken of as "Jake Sharp's" measure, and nobody else connected with it gets any credit or discredit. He thinks the newspapers are responsible for this, but we are inclined to think that he gives them too much credit. In the Broadway Railway matter, for example, the best of reasons were given in his testimony before the Senate Investigating Committee for calling it Jake Sharp's road. He made a bargain with himself to build the road; he took 9,520 of the 10,000 shares of stock; he took the entire issue of $2,500,000 worth of bonds; he bought out the old stage lines, and paid, out of the treasury of the Seventh Avenue Railway Company, the expenses of building the road. If these things did not constitute the road Jake Sharp's road, what could have made it so? He took everything except 480 shares of stock, and those were used by him to pay some of the road's bills.

Commenting upon Mr. Fishback's statements concerning the use of money in elections in Indiana, the Trenton *State Gazette*, one of the most devoted Republican organs of New Jersey, makes this remarkable home confession:

"In the election in this State last fall the corruption fund was larger than usual, on account of the important positions of Governor and United States Senator, and especially the latter, being involved. The funds raised by the party managers were so large as entirely to exhaust the banks in this city, and most likely in several other towns in the State, of all their small bills. We would not like to say how many thousand dollars were used by the two parties in Mercer County alone. We have too much respect for the reputation of the capital and for the State. In some counties in New Jersey the corruption fund was practically limitless, its employment being limited only by the supply of purchasable material. We do not pretend that one party is any less guilty than the other. If one party used less money than the other, it was because its resources were smaller, and not because its virtue was greater."

The *Gazette* thinks that money is used with similar freedom in nearly every State in the Union, and probably it is in all the States where the result is in any way doubtful. And what has been the chief cause of this new force in politics? Why, simply the wealth of the Republican party and its enormous campaign funds, made up of assessments upon office-holders and levies upon the great protected manufacturers. The Republican managers have raised these funds during the past ten or twelve years to maintain their hold upon States which were slipping away from them. The usual name for this is "redeeming" a State. In order to prevent this redeeming, the Democrats have raised large counter funds, and so it has gone on from bad to worse.

The treatment in the press of the doings of Mike Cregan and his "captains" at the late election, in so far as they have been noticed at all, has generally been humorous. This is natural enough, for they are very funny. The "captains" appear to be taken from the very dregs of the city population, and appear to make affidavits on both sides with perfect impartiality. One has testified that Mike employed him on election day to distribute ballots, because he helped him to control the primaries by supplying fraudulent votes. Two at least accuse him of cheating them in paying them for their services at the polls. Bad as Mike is himself, the "captains" appear a trifle worse. In fact, they belong to a class that few people would intrust with the carriage of a parcel as far as the next block. There is, however, a very serious side to the matter, which we trust the friends of reform, who are preparing for the Constitutional Convention, will not overlook. What the misdeeds of Mike and the other Boys bring out clearly is that, after a candidate has received a party nomination in this city, he has actually to make a contract with a band of men of the lowest character, to deliver to him the party vote for a fixed sum of money or other valuable consideration. Now, this is certainly not a laughing matter. It would be a very shocking and disgraceful thing, even if he were sure to get the vote in this way. But it is made more shocking and disgraceful by the fact that even after he has paid his money, he is not at all sure of getting what he bargained for, and that he is almost certain to be cheated if it is discovered that something may be made by cheating him in addition to what he himself has paid. This is, indeed, corruption worse corrupted. What it amounts to is, that we actually allow a band of men hardly one degree above the class of professional criminals to deal in our votes, as they might deal in pork or flour, and not only deal in them, but retail or peddle them. Mike, for instance, sold some Republican votes to Rice and some to Spinola, and had there been any other candidates in the field willing to pay for them, he would have let them also have a few.

At the bottom of all this shame and scandal is the failure of the State to take charge of the ballots. The result of leaving the parties to supply them through their own agents at the polls, is that they are actually peddled by criminals, who use them to defraud both the candidates and the voters. The remedy is to have the ballots furnished by the State—every ticket in the field to every voter, who, if he blunders or is deceived after he gets them into his hands, will have only himself to blame. This and the provision of a paid officer to distribute them at the polling places, with some precautions to secure secrecy, would be all that is necessary to break up the nefarious business now carried on by the Republican and other Boys. The evil has reached such proportions that exposures of it now make people laugh, but men who care for their country or its institutions feel it to be no laughing matter.

The recent flurry in Wall Street is rightly ascribed to the extravagant and senseless speculation in the "fancies" of the Stock Exchange—*i. e.*, in stocks which do not pay dividends, and about which there is so great a cloud of mystery that the imagination may easily run riot respecting their internal composition. Such are Reading, Richmond Terminal, New York and New England, and a lot of new-fledged coal companies with which the Street has been greatly impressed, because it knew nothing about them except their names. Reading may be taken as a type of the lot. It may possibly be a very good property. It may be worth much more than it is selling for. But how is the investor to know? It consists of a main line and branches "owned," 327 miles; then 48 branch lines leased or controlled, 1,255 miles; two canals leased, with steam colliers and coal barges, together with a Coal and Iron Company of portentous magnitude. It has sterling loans, and dollar loans, general mortgages, consolidated mortgages, improvement mortgages, real-estate mortgages, debenture loans and debenture convertible loans, adjustment scrip and plain scrip, income mortgage bonds and deferred income bonds, unfunded coupons, car-trust certificates, receiver's certificates, preferred stock and common stock, the whole amounting to upwards of $150,000,000. Now, this gigantic tangle it is impossible for anybody to see through except, perhaps, a few veterans who have given their entire lives to the study, like that small band of astronomers who give their lives to the task of mapping the paths of the asteroids. The investor in Reading is as helpless as the buyer of

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a lottery ticket, and the "points" he gets from those whom he believes to be well informed are as valueless as the divinations of a gypsy over a pack of cards, because the "pointer" is usually no better informed than the pointee. Now, if this is true in regard to Reading, a property almost within sight of the high buildings in Wall Street, and one which has long been on the Stock Exchange list and frequently reported on, what must be said of the new and distant "fancies" which have been boomed so industriously during the past few weeks?

Our esteemed contemporary the *Financial Chronicle* has misconceived our meaning as to one branch of the silver controversy. We said that "prices, values, and wages have, since the German demonetization, become adjusted to the gold *standard*." The *Chronicle* construes this to mean that prices, values, and wages have adjusted themselves to an absolute disuse of silver as a circulating medium. The latter is a very different condition of things, and, we may add, a wholly imaginary condition. We conceive that prices, wages, and values have adjusted themselves to the gold *standard* in every country where gold is the standard. And this we conceive to be an axiom as true as that the atmosphere has adjusted itself to the temperature indicated by the thermometer. Now, the establishment of the gold standard does not imply or necessitate the disuse of silver thalers in Germany, or of silver five-franc pieces in France and the other countries of the Latin Union. It merely confines those coins to the countries where they respectively belong. They have ceased to have an international circulation. What would result from their total suppression? Undoubtedly the price of silver would fall when the disused metal should come upon the market for sale. It does not follow that the prices of other things would fall, or that wages would fall. Since the German demonetization we have had three periods of marked change in general prices: first, a decline from 1873 to 1879, then an advance from 1879 to 1882, then a decline from 1882 to the beginning of the present year, since when the indications have been those of rising rather than of falling prices. There have been no changes in the use or disuse of silver by mankind corresponding with these fluctuations in general prices—nothing by which the one can be connected with the other or referred to it in any possible way, except perhaps in the first-named period. We adhere to our proposition that prices, wages, and values *are* adjusted to the gold standard in the commercial world, and that if there is to be a fresh disturbance growing out of currency changes, the onus of proving that it would be beneficial rests upon those who advocate bimetallism.

The *Independent* contains an answer to our recent article on "Religious Statistics," which has a lamentable resemblance to all such articles in religious periodicals. It says simply that it does not believe our assertions, and does not agree with our opinions. But our contemporary must see that even the lower animals can do as well as this in discussion—that is, they can express simple dissent and dissatisfaction by bellowing or growling. An editor ought to be able to do better—that is, give articulate reasons for dissent and dissatisfaction—so that his opponent may have a chance to reply, according to the human custom.

If the syndicate or company of capitalists who have bought the Madison Square property will include in their proposed building a fine music hall, they will supply a want which has long been felt. We have no hall suitable for large concerts, either orchestral or choral, and none large enough to make popular concerts, with a low admission fee, profitable. All the more important concerts at present are given in the Metropolitan Opera-house, which, whatever else may be said of its merits, is a very poor concert hall. A large hall, capable of seating at least 5,000 people comfortably, and arranged on the most approved modern plans, would be a most desirable acquisition. Such a hall would be very useful for other purposes than concerts. We have now no place except the cellar of Cooper Institute in which to hold large public meetings, and there are enough of these in every campaign or time of popular excitement to furnish a considerable income.

The recent failure of ex-Mayor Martin of Boston shows what happens when the Knights of Labor are allowed to have their own way with a business. Mr. Martin is a man of the highest character, and a shoe manufacturer of long experience. He has made an assignment, and he shows from his books that the result is due to the fact that for three years he has had practically no control of his business. A year ago, when trade was dull and there was no market for the goods, he tried to induce his employees to accept a necessary 10 per cent. reduction, but they refused; last spring, when he had made a contract to deliver a large order in the West, the operatives demanded an advance, which he was compelled to grant, although by so doing he lost heavily on the order. These are only samples of the way things have gone "since the employees assumed control of the boot and shoe manufacturing of New England." Mr. Martin says that he has a fine set of operatives, and that there would never have been any trouble but for the interference of outsiders who make a living by stirring up strife between employers and employed. He thinks that this bad system will soon be broken up, because the men will see that they are ruining their own interests; and the growing signs of disintegration among the Knights support his theory.

The Campbell divorce case in London has at last ended, both sides having failed in their suits, and having each to pay a bill of costs which will probably be ruinous. Lady Colin Campbell's father is an Irish landlord, and, like most of his class, just now poor. The Duke of Argyll has always been poor for a duke, and his bill will be the larger, amounting, according to one story, to about $175,000. Lord Colin has come off worst, in reputation, having been very roughly handled by the Judge in his charge. The evidence was shockingly indecent, indeed, unprecedentedly so, it is said; but several London newspapers printed it verbatim, and the resulting "sales" were enormous. The moral and religious public has been so much shocked by this that legislation is talked of to restrain this sort of reporting.

Our newspapers did not do as well by the scandal as they did by some former ones, such as the Stead filthiness or the Dilke case. The *World* started off with pretty full reports, but was dazed and discouraged by a letter of great filthiness, which the *Tribune* obtained exclusively, and copyrighted. After that the *Herald* had almost undisturbed possession of whatever nastiness there was, and must have profited by it. One cause of this reserve was probably the approach of the close of the year, when subscriptions have to be renewed, and the prejudices of people who can afford to pay for their paper in advance by the year, have to be consulted. In fact, if we may judge from the prospectuses, there is a good time coming now in journalism. The *Tribune* says:

"The *Tribune*, while complete with respect to all the general news of the day, and the special features which characterize a useful newspaper, has also this distinct feature: it has never lowered its tone and opened its columns to crime and coarseness, although it could at any time gain a large increase of circulation by doing so. It gives the news; but it seeks for and reports with especial fulness those higher matters which are of keen interest to people of thoughtful occupations and earnest purposes in life. The *Tribune* is preëminently the newspaper which CAN BE TAKEN AT HOME."

The *Times* promises hereafter an equally blameless career:

"The *Times* is a newspaper for intelligent men and women. It concerns itself as little as possible with the froth or the dregs of life, and aims to give its readers something more attractive and profitable than a daily chronicle of human follies and frailties. The really important, wholesome, and interesting news of the day is presented with unsurpassed completeness and accuracy by the *Times*."

With these two journals reserving themselves for the "really important" news of the day, avoiding "the froth or the dregs of life," and eschewing coarseness and blackguardism of every description, "the people of thoughtful occupations and earnest purposes in life" will, in this city, have what the *Tribune* might call "a real nice time" in 1887.

The full reports of the Campbell trial given by the London dailies provoke the *Spectator* to an earnest protest against "great cases," which it says are becoming great public nuisances and ought to be stamped out. It points out that through such publications "a people who shriek at immodest literature, and are honestly revolted by French novels, become familiar with dramas beside which Zola's are comparatively clean, and writings like 'Ouida's' models of good taste." But English newspaper readers are much better off than American, for, as the *Spectator* says, in England "the journalists do not report, and the public will not read about Smith, Brown, and Robinson and their womenkind, their quarrellings, their sufferings, or their intrigues," but the people concerned must be high in the social scale. In this country nobody is too low to have his quarrels, sufferings, or intrigues set forth at length, and the papers teem with "spicy" reports of the elopements of bartenders and servant-girls, the scandals of unknown families, and the divorce suits of people whom nobody ever heard of.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, December 15, to TUESDAY, December 21, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE President on Monday nominated W. A. Walker to succeed A. K. Delaney, Gen. Bragg's rival, as United States District Attorney for the Wisconsin Eastern District. He also again sent to the Senate the nomination of James C. Matthews (colored) to be Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia.

The Senate on Wednesday laid on the table the Platt resolution for open executive sessions by 33 to 21.

The Conference report on the Inter-State Commerce Bill was made to the Senate on Wednesday afternoon. Senator Cullom says that he anticipates very determined opposition to the bill in the Senate.

The House bill to extend the free-delivery system of the Post-office Department (passed by the House on December 9) was passed by the Senate on Friday. It provides that letter carriers shall be employed for free delivery at every incorporated city, village, or borough containing a population of 50,000 within its corporate limits, and may be so employed at every place containing a population of not less than 10,000 within its corporate limits, according to the last general census, or at any post-office which produced a gross revenue for the preceding fiscal year of not less than $10,000. The bill to repeal the Tenure-of-Office Act was passed on Friday—30 to 22.

Mr. Aldrich (Rep., R. I.) introduced in the Senate on Friday a bill to provide for the reduction of interest on the bonded debt of the United States. Referred. It authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to receive 4 and 4½ per cent. bonds, and to issue in exchange for them 2½ per cent. bonds, payable in 1907; but not to be subject to be called in and paid so long as other higher-interest bonds are outstanding; the 2½ per cent. bonds to be available as deposits for bank circulation.

On Friday the Senate passed a trade-dollar bill providing that until July 1, 1887, United States trade dollars, if not defaced, mutilated, or stamped, shall be received at the office of the Treasurer or any assistant treasurer of the United States, in exchange for a like amount, dollar for dollar, of standard silver dollars of the United States, and that at the expense of the United States they shall be transmitted to the coinage mints, and shall be regarded and treated as silver bullion, and, at their bullion value, shall be deducted from the amount of bullion required to be purchased and coined by the act of Feb. 8, 1878, and shall be recoined into standard silver dollars, according to the provisions of said act; provided that the amount to be so deducted as provided in this section shall not exceed $500,000 in any month.

The Senate bill for the allotment of lands in severalty to Indians was passed by the House on Thursday, with amendments recommended by the Committee on Indian Affairs. It provides for the allotment of reservation lands in severalty to the Indians located thereon, on their application, in quantities as follows: To each head of a family, one-quarter of a section; to each single person over eighteen years of age, one-eighth of a section; to each orphan child under eighteen years, one-eighth of a section; to each other person under eighteen years, one-sixteenth of a section. If there is not sufficient land on the reservation to allot to each individual the quantity as provided, then the land shall be allotted to each individual pro rata. The bill prohibits for the period of twenty-five years the conveyance of any such allotted land; makes the allottees subject to State and Territorial law, and prohibits any Territory from passing any law denying to any such Indian within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law. The rights and privileges of citizenship are conferred upon every Indian born within the territorial limits of the United States, to whom allotments have been made, and upon every Indian who has voluntarily taken up his residence apart from any tribe of Indians and adopted the habits of civilized life. The bill does not apply to the civilized tribes in the Indian Territory, to the Seneca Nation of New York, nor to the strip of Nebraska adjoining the Sioux Nation.

The Senate on Tuesday passed the following bills: A bill to fix the charges for passports at $1; the House bill making appropriations to supply the deficiencies for the public printing, with an amendment requiring the money to be expended ratably; appointing James B. Angell of Michigan member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. Morrison (Dem., Ill.) moved on Saturday that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider revenue bills. The following Democrats voted in the negative: Messrs. Bliss, Boyle, Campbell of Ohio, Curtin, Ermentrout, Foran, Gay, Geddes, Green of New Jersey, Irion, Lawler, LeFevre, Martin, McAdoo, Merriman, Muller, Randall, Seney, Sowden, Spriggs, Stahlnecker, St. Martin, Wallace, Ward of Illinois, Warner of Ohio, and Wilkins. The following Republicans voted in the affirmative: Hayden, Nelson, Stone of Massachusetts, Strait, Wakefield, and White of Minnesota. There were some changes in the record of June 18 last, when the vote was 140 to 157. Stone and Hayden of Massachusetts, who voted against consideration last June, voted with the Democrats for consideration. James of New York, on the other hand, who voted to consider in June, voted against consideration. The Minnesota Republicans voted for consideration, except Gilfillan. Viele and Tim Campbell of New York, who voted with Randall last year, changed their vote on Saturday. The Louisiana men present voted against consideration. Findlay of Maryland, who voted against consideration in June, voted for consideration on Saturday.

There is such a demand for tariff legislation that it is probable that new attempts to reduce the surplus will be made after the holidays. Conferences are to be held during the recess by the representatives of both sides of the question, and some new plan is expected in January. One of the plans under consideration for a reduction of the surplus is to present a measure providing for the abolition of the tax on domestic tobacco, so far as the grower is concerned, without reference to the manufacturers, a rebate for alcoholic spirits used in the arts and manufacture, and a reduction of the duty on sugar. The promoters of this scheme claim that they can command from 160 to 170 votes for such a proposition. To an almost solid Republican vote they count upon additions from Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee.

Congress will adjourn from December 22 to January 4.

The two houses of Congress are making preparations for the holiday recess. The consideration of the Funding Bill was postponed in the Senate on Monday till after New Year's. The Inter-State Commerce Bill will also be postponed. Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island on Monday introduced a resolution which will secure strong support, and which has in view at least partial reciprocity with many countries, and would effect a very considerable reduction of the surplus. It requests the President to enter into correspondence with sugar-producing countries, with a view to abolishing the duty on sugar from those countries which in turn will admit American manufactures. The House on Monday, by a vote of 75 to 255, refused to suspend the rules and pass a bill which practically increases the rate of duty on Sumatra tobacco.

Acting Secretary Fairchild has accepted the offer of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad Company to pay the sum of $153,600 in compromise of the claim of the United States, now in suit against that company in the middle district of Tennessee, founded on certain matured and unpaid interest coupons of bonds issued by the company and held by the United States.

A movement for an organization of anti-Gorman Democrats was begun in Maryland on Thursday.

At the annual meeting of the New Haven Civil-Service Reform Association on Friday night the Executive Committee's report was adopted. It praised Postmaster English's administration of the local Post-office according to the Civil-Service Law. President Cleveland's utterances, it says, have been clear and emphatic, and, quoting his message and circular to office-holders, it says: "It is greatly to be regretted that the author of such ringing phrases should have permitted the exigencies of party to lead him to actions such as to almost justify the conclusion, that official activity becomes pernicious when directed against the Democratic party only."

The Ohio Supreme Court on Thursday rendered a decision sustaining the constitutionality of the Dow Liquor Tax Law in all its features, including tax and lien provisions.

A decision of the New York Court of Appeals was handed down on Friday morning affirming the order of the General Term of the Supreme Court in the matter of the petition of the New York Cable Railway Company. The General Term had denied the motion of the Cable Company to confirm a report of Commissioners, under which it was allowed to build about seventy miles of railway in the streets of this city. The present decision, therefore, puts an end to all cable schemes for the present in New York city.

The trial of ex-Alderman McQuade of this city was concluded on Wednesday evening with a verdict of guilty. The jury arrived at that result on the first ballot. On Monday McQuade was sentenced to seven years in State's Prison and to pay a fine of $5,000.

Albert Stickney, the attorney for Jacob Sharp in the criminal proceedings against him for bribery in connection with the Broadway Railroad franchise, served on District-Attorney Martine on Monday notice of motion for the removal of the case against Sharp from the Court of General Sessions to the Court of Oyer and Terminer, and then from the Oyer and Terminer of this county to the Oyer and Terminer of another county, on the ground that he cannot have a fair and impartial trial in this city.

There was a flurry on Wednesday in Wall Street and one failure. Prices, however, rallied on Thursday.

An appeal for Walt Whitman has been circulated in England and Scotland asserting that he is in want of the necessities of life. The aged poet says he is comfortable, thanks to his friends, but will not decline any gift that may be given him.

Marshall P. Wilder died in Roxbury, Mass., on Thursday morning at the age of eighty-six. Mr. Wilder had for many years been one of the most prominent men in the city, besides having a wide reputation as one of the foremost pomologists and horticulturists of the country. He was President of the American Pomological Society, and was making active preparations for a meeting of that society in Boston in 1887 at the time of his death. He was also prominent in politics.

James D. Warren, editor of the Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, died at his home in Buffalo on Friday evening. He was born in Bennington, Wyoming County, N. Y., January 19, 1823. Mr. Warren was an active and influential Republican politician of the Stalwart type. He was one of the 306 who voted for Grant at the Chicago Convention of 1880. In 1884 he urged the nomination of Arthur,

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but, as Chairman of the New York State Committee, did vigorous work for Blaine during the campaign. He was opposed to the disastrous Delmonico dinner and ministers' meeting.

Ex-Gov. Frederick W. Pitkin of Colorado died in Pueblo of consumption on Saturday, at the age of forty-nine. He was a direct descendant of an early Governor of Connecticut.

Henry G. Kingsley, Treasurer of Yale College, died in New Haven on Sunday, at the age of seventy-one. He was graduated from Yale in 1836.

FOREIGN.

An immense Nationalist demonstration was held at Loughrea, County Galway, Ireland, on Thursday. Father Cunningham presided, and a number of other clergymen and Messrs. Dillon, O'Brien, Harris, and Sheehy were on the platform. A large contingent of Lord Clanricarde's tenants were present. Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien addressed the meeting, and then opened Nationalist rent offices. Hundreds of tenants came forward and paid their rents. Suddenly the police raided the offices. Inspector Davies seized money, documents, and books, and arrested Mr. Dillon. Mr. Dillon struggled with the Inspector for possession of the money. The police proceeded up stairs and took possession of more money and documents. They then arrested Mr. O'Brien, editor of *United Ireland*, and afterwards Matthew Harris, M. P. for East Galway, and David Sheehy, M. P. for South Galway. The specific charge against the four gentlemen is that they were conspiring to induce the tenants not to pay their lawful rents. They gave bail in £200 each. The police have been instructed to pursue a similar course in the case of other Nationalist rent collectors. The National League leaders have decided to continue their present tactics. Commenting on these arrests, the London *Daily News* says: "We regret that the Irish Nationalists meditate open defiance of the law. We emphatically state that English Liberals can have nothing whatever to do with outrage, dishonesty, or resistance to the law."

The arrests caused great excitement in London and in Ireland. The *Standard* said: "The arrests at Loughrea mark the beginning of a death struggle between the League and the law. The Nationalists imagine that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach will shrink from filling the prisons with Irish priests and commoners. It is the duty of the Ministers to show these crafty schemers that they have miscalculated their strength."

The British Government has decided to proceed against all concerned in the plan of campaign on a charge of conspiracy. Mr. William O'Brien, who was in Dublin on Saturday, received a summons similar to the one served on him at Loughrea, to appear and answer to another charge of "conspiracy to defraud." The alleged conspiracy to defraud consists in accepting as trustees for tenants the reduced rents refused by the landlords. Similar summonses have been served on William Redmond and other Parnellites.

The court at Dublin on Tuesday refused Mr. John Dillon's application for a stay of the order against him to furnish bonds in the sum of £1,000, with sureties in the sum of £1,000 each, for future good behavior, pending the outcome of an appeal from the sentence. Mr. John Dillon said he would continue to carry out the plan of campaign in defiance of the Government. "Nobody," he said, "has a right to say the plan of campaign is illegal until a jury has decided on the facts." Mr. Dillon also said the leaders in this new movement desire to benefit the tenants in Ireland without the assistance of the moonlighters.

In a recent interview Mr. Göschen, now recognized, after Lord Hartington, as the leader of the Liberal Unionists, expressed great satisfaction with the determined stand taken by the Government against the plan of campaign in Ireland, to which Mr. Parnell has not yet given any open adhesion.

Mr. Parnell will soon go to Ireland to investigate the plan of campaign. He declares that he was not aware that the plan of campaign had been proposed until it had been published. The London *Standard* interprets Mr. Parnell's "sudden" appearance in London as showing an intention on his part to make a virtue of necessity by refusing to sanction the continuance of the campaign. "The Parnellite leaders," it says, "are not likely to support Mr. William O'Brien's hint to let loose the energies of crime." Mr. Joseph Richard Cox, Mr. Jeremiah Jordan, and Mr. Joseph Edward Kenney, Parnellite members for East and West Clare and South Cork, respectively, succeeded on Sunday in totally hoodwinking the police, and in collecting and escaping with all the rents due from tenants on the Vandeleur estates in County Clare.

At the regular fortnightly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Irish National League in Dublin on Tuesday, it was announced that since the last meeting there had been received in donations from Ireland $2,700, and from America $25,000.

Father Fahy, the priest who early in September was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for refusing to give bail for good behavior, was on Monday released unconditionally from the Galway Jail.

The farmers in the north of Wales are resisting the collection of the church tithes. In one section of the country the farmers expelled the collecting bailiffs from the farms and escorted them out of the district. It is feared that the movement on the part of the Welshmen may lead to serious results.

The jury in the Lord Colin Campbell case returned a verdict on Monday night. They found that Lord Colin Campbell had not committed adultery, and that Lady Colin had not committed adultery with any of the co-respondents. The juror added a rider that the conduct of Gen. Butler was unworthy of a gentleman and an officer, and had caused the only difficulty which the jury experienced in reaching a decision. The Judge granted Lady Colin £150 costs in her suit against her husband, and the full costs of her defence against her husband's suit. He also granted full costs to the Duke of Marlborough, Chief Shaw, and Dr. Bird, co-respondents in Lord Colin's suit against his wife. Gen. Butler, another co-respondent, did not apply for costs.

In the appeal of James Gordon Bennett against the decision awarding Cyrus W. Field £5,000 damages for statements derogatory to the latter published in the New York *Herald*, the British Court of Appeals on Wednesday quashed the verdict against Mr. Bennett. The present decision takes the ground that Mr. Bennett, not being a British subject nor a resident of Great Britain, the substituted service on him in London upon which the verdict was obtained was illegal. The court condemns Mr. Field to pay the costs.

Robert Hogarth Patterson, a distinguished British writer, is dead at the age of sixty-five. His work, 'The New Revolution, or the Napoleonic Policy in Europe' (1860), attracted much attention, as some of its prophecies were soon fulfilled. Among his other works are 'Essays in History and Art,' 'The Economy of Capital,' 'The Science of Finance,' 'The State of the Poor and the Country.'

The London *Post* of Monday morning, in an inspired article, warns Turkey against further coquetting with Russia. The British Government, it says, has undergone great sacrifices to uphold the integrity of Turkey, even against the opinion of a large portion of the English people. Any hesitation on the part of Turkey will now compel England to adopt a course to counteract Russia's threats, by measures that will speedily impress the Porte with the fact that her present doubtful policy is the worst for her real interests.

The *Journal de St.-Pétersbourg* says that Russia's refusal to accept the candidacy of Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha for the Bulgarian throne is not due to personal objections, the Prince enjoying general esteem at St. Petersburg.

Count Herbert Bismarck, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, at the reception of the Bulgarian deputation in Berlin on Sunday, advised the Bulgarians to reach an understanding with Russia. It is said that the deputation are satisfied with their interview.

The sitting of the Commission on the German Military Bill on Thursday was an exciting one, and the Government's plans were materially modified. The Commission finally voted in favor of 450,000 men for three years, instead of 438,400 for seven years, as proposed by the bill. The result was due to a coalition. The majority consisted of 5 Progressists, 2 Socialists, 8 Centrists, and 1 Pole, and the minority of 4 National Liberals, 6 Conservatives, and 2 Free Conservatives. The Commission have concluded the debate on the first reading of the measure. Gen. von Schellendorff declared that it was impossible to accept the bill as modified by the Commission. An adjournment was taken, probably till after the holidays. The belief is general that the Reichstag will soon be dissolved.

The German Reichstag Military Commission, by a majority of 12, has exempted clergymen from military service.

Germany has annexed several of the Solomon Islands, in conformity with an agreement with England.

Uneasiness is felt in Paris over the rapidity with which the Government is working to place the armament of France in the completest condition possible. The State manufactories of arms and ammunition are all being pushed to their utmost capacity. It is reported from Rome that Italy is arming. Advices from Berlin state that Germany is increasing her troops in Alsace-Lorraine.

The Hovas have paid the 400,000 francs war indemnity due France under the terms of the treaty of peace, and the evacuation of Tamatave by the French in consequence is imminent

Baron Charles Arthur Bourgeois, the French sculptor, is dead at the age of forty-eight.

In the Italian Chamber of Deputies on Thursday Signor Ricotti, Minister of War, declared that Italy was now in a position to mobilize and victual 400,000 troops, not counting the reserves. The work of providing the troops with repeating rifles had already begun, he said, and 1,000,000 of them would be in use by 1888. He believed that Italy would be well prepared in the event of an outbreak of hostilities.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies has approved an extra credit of $5,000,000 for the War and Marine Departments.

Signor Magliani, Minister of Finance, announced in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on Sunday that the budget of 1885–86 showed a deficit of $5,000,000. He hoped that in the budget for 1886–87 the receipts and expenditures would balance in spite of the increase in appropriations for the army and navy, and that the budget for 1887-88 would show a surplus of $400,000.

M. N. Droz, now Vice-President, has been elected President of Switzerland for 1887.

Dr. William Junker, the Russian explorer and companion of Emin Bey, who first brought to the outside world news of Emin's defence of the Egyptian provinces intrusted to his charge, telegraphs from Zanzibar to the *Herald*: "An expedition to rescue Emin most urgent. The routes are now practicable if a strong, thoroughly well-organized expedition is sent. Best thing would be a strong expedition under command of Stanley. There will be fighting. I shall reach Cairo January 8."

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THE TREASURY SURPLUS.

THE vote taken on Saturday, by which the House of Representatives refused again to consider the Morrison Tariff Bill, may possibly close out the discussion for this session. If it were disconnected from the surplus question, we should say that it would be quite useless to try to bring it up again. But the circumstances of the Treasury are such as to require imperatively some action to stop the inflow of superfluous and unusable funds Considerable range of opinion may exist as to the proper method of reducing the surplus. It is even possible to reduce it to some extent without lowering the taxes. Mr. Dawes, for example, thought that something might be done in this way by increasing the duties on tin plates to a point which would stop, or seriously curtail, the importation of that article. Such a measure would reduce the surplus and increase the taxes so far as tin plates go. Other measures of like tendency are on foot, some at the Treasury Department, some in Congress. The wool-growers are trying again to get the duties on their product increased so as to compel the carpet-manufacturers to import and pay duty on a pound of dirt and grease with every pound of wool. The owners of iron mines are laboring with zeal and steadiness to compel the smelters to pay 75 cents per ton duty on the water absorbed by foreign ore when in transit to this country. Success in these endeavors would probably lead to diminished importations, and thus "reduce the surplus" somewhat. But no general scheme of adequate proportions has been brought forward by anybody, and, on a test vote whether the question shall be considered at all, the House has voted in the negative by a majority of six.

But by this vote the present Congress merely proclaims its own incompetency to deal with an unavoidable problem, and passes it over to the next one. The 3 per cent. bonds will not all be paid off till midsummer or later. The perplexities of outgoing members may be eased by pushing them over to their successors in office. Those who have been re elected cannot shirk the task, although they may adjourn it for a few months. Failure to act now will inevitably bring on an extra session of the Fiftieth Congress. The President will have no option but to call one as soon as the members can be got together after the 4th of March. There is, however, one way of getting the subject again before the present House. Mr. Randall himself introduced a tariff bill last session. Assuming that he would vote to take up his own bill, it would be practicable in a parliamentary sense to amend it by repealing the sugar duties and striking out everything else. Probably Mr. Randall would prefer to repeal the tobacco tax, and he might be willing to sacrifice his tariff changes in order to accomplish that. We can perceive no other way to bring the subject again before the House, now that the Morrison bill has been refused consideration.

Since it is well to look at every side of the question, we may look at alternative measures if the Congress did nothing at all to reduce the surplus either at the present or the extra session. Mr. Hewitt has offered a bill which virtually proposes to anticipate the payment of all the interest on the 4 per cent. bonds in excess of 2½ per cent., the present value of the remainder (1½ per cent.) for twenty years being computed according to the tables of annuities and paid in advance. This would require something over $200,000,000, provided that all the holders of the 4 per cents would accept such payment in advance. The plan is economically sound. It has been mooted before. Comptroller Knox recommended it in one of his annual reports, but it found no favor with Congress, for the reason, probably, that it came as a measure for relieving the tension on the national-bank circulation. Congress did not care to relieve that tension, but it does desire to relieve the tension caused by the Treasury surplus, if it can do so without "treading on anybody's corns"—that is, without repealing any protective duties. There is consequently some chance that Mr. Hewitt's suggestion may be followed, although it has to encounter a formidable difficulty, namely, that of making people understand that it is right to pay the bondholders a part of their interest in advance. If this difficulty can be surmounted, the amount of surplus disposed of will be uncertain, but if all holders of 4 per cent. bonds avail themselves of its terms, the difficulty of the surplus may be carried over to the midsummer of 1889, leaving still an interval of two years before the 4½ per cents fall due. But it is not probable that all the 4 per cents would come in. Many of them are tied up in trusts so that they cannot be disturbed, and many more have been laid away in an express manner upon the calculation of a uniform rate of interest at 4 per cent. and repayment of the principal at a fixed time.

The Randall Democrats are said to intend to bring forward a measure to solve the difficulty by repealing "nearly all" of the internal-revenue duties. We suppose that they will leave the oleomargarine tax in force, that being in the nature of a protective duty, and repeal the whiskey tax in order to keep the sugar duties and the wool duties alive. That plan will supply an issue for the next national election which will be entirely agreeable to revenue reformers.

THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE BILL.

THERE is evidently a strong political influence supporting the Inter-State Commerce Bill, which has received a considerable impetus from the Supreme Court's decision in the Wabash case. The Western States, although compelled to repeal the arbitrary provisions of the Granger laws, have adhered strongly to the underlying idea that the State has the right to regulate railway charges, and that the railways must take their chances of getting justice out of the common sense and spirit of fair dealing habitual to the American people. But the principle of the Granger legislation broke down at the State boundaries, under the Wabash decision. The laws of Iowa could not project themselves beyond the Mississippi on one side or the Missouri on the other. The Supreme Court swept away nine-tenths of the railway-rate laws when it declared that no State could adopt regulations affecting the movements of commerce among different States or with foreign countries. The decision was clearly right, but it simply removed the struggle from the local legislatures to the general legislature at Washington.

Before this decision was made, it was doubtful whether any inter-State commerce bill would pass. The Reagan bill had been on the calendar for years and years. The Cullom bill, a much wiser measure, had stopped the way of the Reagan bill, and the latter had stopped the way of the former. There was no impelling power sufficiently strong to give one of these measures a preponderant force, or to compel a compromise between the two. The needed impulse has been supplied by the decision in the Wabash case. There is no doubt that members of Congress from the West and Southwest are afraid to face their constituents if they allow another session to pass without coming to a vote on some bill of this kind. The fear which controls them affects the two political parties in the same way. Neither of them can allow the other to gain a local advantage. If the West and the Southwest are determined to have an inter-State commerce bill, and if other sections of the Union are indifferent, both parties will naturally support it.

It does not follow that the measure now proposed, or any measure which embraces the "long haul and short haul" clause, will be satisfactory to all the Western States. In fact, it will be so disadvantageous to those furthest removed from the seaboard that they will need only one taste of it to become its strenuous opponents. The relatively low rate for the long haul is in their interest. It is also in the general interest of the community, since it furnishes food products to all of us at the lowest possible cost. This is the end to which all collective human endeavor tends and should tend. It is in the same beneficial line with improved agricultural machinery and better methods of culture, serving to give more food with less effort. It is equally to the advantage of the farmer in the distant West. Already we hear that the Senators from the frontier States are opposed to this clause of the bill. Those who favor it are Middle Western States, whose agricultural industry would gain an advantage if the long-haul clause were adopted. A compromise has been effected by which the proposed Railway Commission may suspend the operation of the long-haul clause in special cases after investigation. This feature of the bill involves an inconsistency, but it is probably the smallest grain of mischief that we can look for in view of the determination of Congress to attack what are considered to be railway discriminations. There is nothing in the bill, however, to prevent a railway company from buying grain in a far Western State, carrying it to market, and selling it for what it will bring. Cases have been known where a railway company has resorted to this practice in order to get freight for empty cars returning home over long distances, where the hauling of the car itself is a matter of expense, and where the difference in cost between hauling a loaded car and an empty one is only the price of a little cheap fuel.

The second and third sections of the bill,

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which prohibit discriminations between individual shippers, are entirely just. The exasperation which has grown out of such discriminations in the past is one of the prime reasons why there is now an inter-State commerce bill pending. It is not necessary to enlarge upon this point, since no railway now defends or apologizes for such discriminations. Formerly it was said that a lower rate ought to be given to a man or corporation who furnishes a larger amount of business—that is, that an inequality of advantages between two traders which exists naturally, ought to be aggravated and multiplied by the common carrier until the weaker is crushed. This is not to the advantage of the common carrier himself in the long run. It is certainly not to the advantage of the community. It ought to be stopped peremptorily. The clause which prohibits "pooling" is open to more question Pooling operates to prevent discriminations It takes away from the common carrier the motive to discriminate, since he no longer gains by it. Instead of passing a law to prohibit pools, it would be better to legalize them outright. There is no danger that they will grow to an oppressive degree, or that any railway abuse will become really serious in the face of a public opinion which supports so stringent a measure as the one now pending.

THE INDIANS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

THE management of Indian affairs during the last year is very clearly set forth in the annual reports of Secretary Lamar and Commissioner Atkins, which have just been presented to Congress. The tone of both these documents shows that the two officers of the Government who are most directly concerned in the control and care of the Indians desire in the main to treat the nation's wards honestly, to protect them in their rights, and to hasten the day when the Indians can maintain these rights as individuals, just as white citizens maintain theirs, and without the constant intervention of governmental protective power. It is reassuring to be told, as we are at the outset, that, of the total Indian population of 260,000, less than 100 were at war with the Government during the last year. These 100—Apaches of Arizona—are now subdued and practically imprisoned. All the others are on reservations, where they are supervised by agents, and can discuss peacefully their wants. It is encouraging also to be told that the estimate for carrying on the Indian service for the fiscal year 1888 is about $1,700,000 less than was the estimate for 1886. It would be more commendable if the Government officers could say that this economy was practised with entire justice to the Indians themselves.

But this is not the case. Secretary Lamar has for two years been urging Congress to pass a bill authorizing the appointment of a commission to inspect every reservation, and report on the needs of the Indians there collected, and suggest reforms in agency affairs. This suggestion has been warmly seconded by President Cleveland, but Congress has failed to act upon it. There is another instance of a still more flagrant omission of the lawmakers. The statute provides that the produce of all pasturage, and all other products of the Indian reservations, except those of civilized tribes, which are not the result of individual labor, shall be covered into the Treasury for the benefit of the tribes for whom the reservations are held, to be expended under regulations of the Secretary of the Interior. The Indians themselves and the Secretary of the Interior supposed that this money was to be employed to aid the Indians in their efforts to carry on civilized pursuits. But the Secretary of the Treasury decided that this fund, when once paid into the Treasury, could only be paid out again after the passage of an act by Congress authorizing its use. The Indians have been quick to understand the injustice of this situation, and in one instance, Commissioner Atkins explains, have put in practice a sort of "plan of campaign," by appointing one of their own number to collect from farmers, herders, and others the money due for grazing, hay, etc. and divide it among them. Secretary Lamar earnestly recommends that the law be changed so that this money can be paid to the Indians to whom it belongs. One other instance of injustice may be mentioned. A commission is required to make a just settlement with the Mission Indians of California, whose wrongs Mrs. H. H. Jackson has so vividly portrayed. But Congress has failed to enact the necessary law, and white settlers are encroaching on the Indian lands so persistently that it may require the use of troops to dislodge them.

The two questions regarding the Indians which excite most discussion, are the future of the Indian Territory and the division of Indian lands among individual owners instead of continuing to hold them for the tribes in common. In his report last year Secretary Lamar said: "The practice of moving the Indian to more distant reservations can be continued no longer. He must make his final stand for existence where he is now." Conceding this, what follows more naturally than the assertion that the Government should afford him all possible protection in the narrow boundaries to which he has been driven, and especially should encourage him, by meting out the most exact justice, to advance in civilization, and place himself under such legal restrictions as the white man has adopted? How can he be expected to do this if the white man, after guaranteeing him a territory, violates the agreement under the plea of the "necessity of civilization"? And yet Commissioner Atkins, directly, and Secretary Lamar, more indirectly, seek to find excuses for throwing open the Indian Territory, more or less extensively, to the white man's use. Congress has asserted its right to grant rights of way through this Territory to railroad companies in the face of treaty obligations. Commissioner Atkins waves aside such obligations by arguments like these: "These Indians have no right to obstruct civilization and commerce and set up an exclusive claim to self-government. . . . I repeat, to maintain any such view is to acknowledge a foreign sovereignty, with the right of eminent domain, upon American soil—a theory utterly repugnant to the spirit and genius of our laws, and wholly unwarranted by the Constitution of the United States." We must submit that such language is more fitted for the speech of the Chairman of a Territorial Convention than for a sober Government report, and we would refer the Commissioner, as a mental sedative, to that article of the Federal Constitution which says explicitly that (among other things) "*all* treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land." There is nothing in this section about "excluding Indians not taxed."

The fact is, that it is in the Indian Territory, where the Indians have been kept uncontaminated by the influences of the worst classes of whites, that we see the only examples of high Indian civilization, with methodical government, churches, schools, and individual wealth. Secretary Lamar admits in one sentence that "railroads introduce into the Indian country an element not easily controlled by this Department under existing laws," and then, in the next, excuses the opening of Indian boundaries to railroads by suggesting that they "enhance the value of the Indian lands" and "aid in breaking down the natural aversion of the Indians to the division of their lands for individual holdings." What success can be hoped for in the experiment of creating individual Indian land-owners if the Indian, before the experiment is fairly under way, is to be subjected to influences which break down his health, destroy his conception of morality, and unfit him to manage the homestead when it comes into his control? It is Secretary Lamar, in this same report, who, commending the suggestion that the Indians on certain reservations be allowed to pasture the cattle of neighboring cattlemen on their surplus lands and be paid for so doing, says: "It should, however, be so restricted and regulated *as to prevent white men from going upon the reservations*"; and Commissioner Atkins advances as an argument for moving all the Territory Indians east of the 98th meridian that "the Indians would be together in a more compact form, while the whites would be by themselves."

Justice and expediency, in a word, both require that our treaty obligations with the Indian Territory tribes be sacredly respected. It is by doing this, and not by proving to them the falsity of white men's promises, that they will be induced to adopt the white man's system of government. Much is said about the unnecessary amount of land which these Indians now possess. It is, in fact, counting good and poor, about 500 acres per capita. A white settler in Dakota can take up 480 acres. When we remember that the Indians have the right to this land, it does not seem as if their allowance is excessive, especially in view of the time, which their best friends hope is approaching, when the fathers' possessions may be allotted to the children and divided among them as are those of the whites.

A NEGLECTED SIDE OF "THE LABOR PROBLEM."

THE movement which is now on foot in this city for the introduction of industrial training for girls into our public schools, probably touches a more important part of "the labor problem" than any other. There is something almost hideous in the mis-

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chief and waste of much of the education which is given at the public expense to the children of the poor. The daughters of laborers and mechanics and hackmen, who must perforce earn their bread somehow, are taken by the hundred every year and laboriously instructed in belles-lettres, music, and languages, in preparation for the Normal College, where they expect to get the final touches of preparation to be teachers. There are said to be every year 300 more women candidates for admission to this institution than there is room for, and it turns out so many graduates that there are said to be twenty-five of them applying for every vacancy in the teacherships of the public schools in this city. The amount of disappointment, and bitterness, and failure among young women which this represents, and for which the management of our public schools is directly responsible, is almost sickening to think of. There can hardly be a more miserable or helpless being than a female teacher, fond of city life, who can find no place in a city school. There is nothing else she can turn her hand to. She is a surplus member of one of the most overstocked professions, and she only knows enough to enable her to instruct those who know hardly anything at all.

But the personal misery of the unsuccessful, over-educated girls is only a small part of the evil. Every one of them causes more or less disturbance, and sometimes fatal disturbance, in the paternal household. The father is, in a vast number of cases, a poor man, who can barely make ends meet by his wages. As soon as his daughter begins to prepare to be a teacher, and read the magazines, and have dreams of a literary life, discontent with her humble surroundings sets in. The standard of food and dress and furniture is raised. Very probably a hired piano appears on the scene. The father and mother's pride is excited by her prospect of becoming a "lady," and habits of expense creep in. If there are sons, their sister's ways help to disgust them too with manual labor of any kind, and make them aspire to some kind of "clerking" or speculation, and fill them with envy of the men who go out to "Gabe" Case's behind fast horses on fine afternoons; and it is well if they do not decline work altogether, and try to live in idleness "off the old man." Jay Gould and Vanderbilt become more and more subjects of meditation and conversation around the family stove in the evenings. The old man begins to run in debt, thinking Maggie or Josie will help him to pay it off when she gets a place after leaving the Normal School, which she is supposed to be sure to get into. Very likely, too, he, in his extremity, makes free with his employer's property, and gets turned adrift when the appetites of the young people for genteel life are fully formed. This is not a fancy picture. Such cases by the dozen are within the knowledge of large numbers of our readers in this city. They are so numerous, in fact, as almost to warrant the assertion that the education we give the daughters of the poor is one of the curses of our society. It feeds the immense and cruel delusion and prejudice to which we owe the class of starving "sales-ladies" and sewing-women—one of the most woe-begone and forlorn in the civilized world.

For it must be remembered that few or none of these women learn, in their learning years, to do anything for the promotion either of their own material comfort or that of anybody else, or to follow any calling for which there is a real and growing demand. They seldom know how to cook, or sew, or cut out, or make, or mend, or wash, or iron, or clean, or decorate, or ever think of learning it. They cannot manufacture anything which anybody wants to buy, or render any service in which any dexterity of hand or eye comes into play. All the manual arts are unknown to them, the common as well as the fine. Their fate in this age of the world is, therefore, a most pitiful one, and every taxpayer here helps to bring it upon them.

It is time, and high time, that this most ridiculous and most un-American waste of money came to an end. Belles-lettres scholars ought not to be turned out at the expense of the poor people who pay the bulk of the taxes. But even if they ought, the opportunity of industrial training—that is, of learning the arts which make life comfortable and convenient, for which the demand increases with the growth of wealth and civilization—should also be put within the reach of the children of the people. The clerical force, both male and female, of the United States is too large already. We also have a superabundance of teachers, and writers, and thinkers of moderate or no capacity. "Sales-ladies" also are deplorably abundant. But good seamstresses, housekeepers, cooks, laundresses, bakers, and good artisans of every description, both male and female, are scarce, and seem to grow scarcer in proportion to population. Oral laborers, in short, multiply apace; but the honest and excellent manual laborers, who can stand on their own feet and be the self-respecting and independent members of a free commonwealth, like the old New England mechanics, do not. In these days of protection it is time the production of them was encouraged by law in some other way than by taxing commodities.

VOLTAIRE IN SWITZERLAND.—III.

PARIS, December 2, 1886.

I AM afraid I have been somewhat unjust towards the authors of 'La vie intime de Voltaire aux Délices et à Ferney.' They have certainly used more original and inedited documents in their last work than in their two works on Mme. d'Épinay, which made me think too often of the verse:

"Un dîner réchauffé ne valut jamais rien."

What is particularly interesting in the 'Vie intime de Voltaire' is the account of the effect produced by the great Frenchman on the Genevese society. I left Voltaire, in my last article, struggling for the Calas, and finally triumphing over injustice and intolerance. His health, which was always bad, had become worse; often he could not write. "My eyes are as red as a drunkard's, and I have not the honor to be one." No more actors, no more actresses—the theatre was closed; the Consistory had triumphed. Mme. Denis, always a very practical lady, spreads the linen in the dramatic chamber, Voltaire shuts himself up and will see nobody. An Englishman arrives and says that he came from London on purpose to see Voltaire. "Does he take me for a curious beast? Well, let him pay six livres or he shall not see me." "There are twelve," says the Englishman, "but I shall come back to-morrow." Voltaire hears, however, that Mlle. Clairon, who has quarrelled with the French Theatre, is at Lyons, and he invites her at once. She comes. He had not seen her for seventeen years. When she sees him she throws herself at his knees. He falls on his knees also, and says: "Now, mademoiselle, how do you do?" (Huber made an engraving of this pleasant scene.) Voltaire had the pleasure of hearing Clairon in her best parts. She was treated like a princess. Voltaire wrote verses for her, made her presents, amused her with fireworks. After Clairon, came the Count and Countess Shuvaloff and the dear friend Damilaville. The Countess lent all her diamonds (worth 200,000 *écus*) to Mme. Denis when Mme. Denis played before her the part of *Mérope*. Shuvaloff was a great admirer of Voltaire, with whom he corresponded, and who pronounced him "a prodigy of wit, grace, and philosophy."

The letters and writings of Rousseau had not been without effect in Geneva. The struggle between Jean Jacques and the philosophers had been the signal for a struggle between the old Genevese aristocracy and the people. When the 'Nouvelle Héloise' and the 'Émile' were published, the "Petit Conseil" had ordered these books to be burned by the public executioner, and Rousseau himself was condemned to imprisonment. He protested, and asked to be judged not before the "Petit Conseil," but before a "General Council." Finally France and the Cantons of Zurich and Berne had to offer their mediation between the popular and the aristocratic parties. The French mediator was a M. de Beauteville; Voltaire found in him an ally. The Council of Geneva was obliged to tolerate a theatre during the period of the mediation. The plenipotentiaries of Zurich and Berne had agreed on this point with the French minister. The company was French, and played the comic opera, which was then in its infancy—"Annette et Lubin," "Rose et Colas," "La Partie de chasse d'Henri IV." This was a great triumph for Voltaire; but the plenipotentiaries, unable to succeed in their mission, retired to Soleure, and as soon as they were gone the theatre was closed and the French company dismissed. The theatre was burned, and many thought that the fire was not an accident.

Voltaire composed an heroic poem, "La Guerre civile de Genève," in which he ridiculed the principal inhabitants of Geneva. He read it to his friends only, and was angry when he heard that copies of it were circulating in Paris and in Geneva. The culprit was young La Harpe, whom Voltaire had always treated as a child. La Harpe had also taken the manuscript of the 'Mémoires pour servir à la vie de Voltaire.' Voltaire dismissed him from his house. Mme. Denis, though she was sixty years old, had taken a great fancy to the young poet, and Geneva learned with surprise that she had left her uncle. Grimm, in his correspondence, writes: "If you believe the bad tongues of Geneva, Mme. Denis, notwithstanding her bitter ugliness (*sa laideur amère*), has always been very *galante*." Voltaire said nothing, or tried to explain Mme. Denis's departure by natural reasons. He writes to Mme. Du Deffand: "I have been for forty years the landlord of Europe, and I am tired of the profession. I have received three or four hundred Englishmen, etc. . . . My age of seventy-four years and my continual maladies condemn me to retirement. This life could not suit Mme. Denis, who had forced her nature when she lived with me in the country; she needed continual fêtes in order to support the horrors of my desert. . . . Mme. Denis needs Paris; the little Corneille needs it still more."

Voltaire is now almost alone, with a secretary, and a harmless chaplain, Père Adam. He took

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the communion with great publicity, in order to disarm his enemies; the news of this ceremony made a great noise at Paris and at Versailles. Voltaire gained little by it, and was accused of hypocrisy and blasphemy as well as of infidelity. The Bishop of Annecy blamed the curate of Ferney who had given the communion to Voltaire, and Voltaire was not satisfied till he found the means of taking the sacrament again. He simulated a mortal malady, procured a surgeon's certificate, and sent in the night for a priest. He succeeded, but his best friends disapproved of his actions. Tronchin calls them "les polissonneries de Voltaire avec son curé."

Voltaire gave Mme. Denis, who lived in Paris, a pension of 20,000 livres; he had given her 60,000 livres when she left Ferney. Grimm draws an amusing portrait of her: "God made her without *esprit* and gave her a *bourgeois* soul, adorned with all the suitable qualities. She is what is called in society a good woman—an expression which implies no effective virtue or goodness. Nature had formed her for a vegetative life: for games of cards with the women of the quarter, and dull gossip; but chance would give her as an uncle the first man in the country. She has learned to speak of letters and of dramatic literature, as a bird learns to sing." Mme. Denis, to her great astonishment, was not much regretted by her uncle. She wrote letters to her friends at Geneva which are remarkable for their erratic orthography. She was afraid that Voltaire would forget her, especially in his will. She begged to be allowed to come back, and, after a long negotiation, Voltaire gave his consent.

The famous Pigalle was sent to Ferney by the Encyclopædists, who had decided, in a dinner at Mme. Necker's, to bear the expense of a statue of the author of "Mérope." In vain did Voltaire write: "I am seventy-six years old. . . . M. Pigalle wishes to model my face; but, madam, I have no face: one can hardly distinguish its place. My eyes are sunken, my cheeks are pieces of old parchment on bone, my last teeth are gone. Was ever a man sculptured in such a state?" Pigalle came, however, and began his work. Voltaire could not keep quiet an instant, and Pigalle nearly renounced finishing his bust. All those who know the Foyer of the French Theatre must thank him for his perseverance: his Voltaire is truly alive, and it is impossible to express better in marble the peculiar genius of the philosopher and dramatist. I will say, by the by, that the French sculptors of busts, at the end of the last century, formed a school which has not yet been surpassed; they are every day more admired, and they deserve to be.

Lekain, the tragedian, came to Switzerland about the same time, and played several times before Voltaire, who was so delighted that he said, "It is not I who wrote my tragedies—it is he." Voltaire became very ill in the last part of 1773, and the rumor of his death was spread all over Europe. Thanks to Tronchin, he recovered and received many more illustrious guests. Grimm came in 1775, and was coldly received. Voltaire probably knew how Grimm had judged some of his productions in the 'Literary Correspondence.' In the year 1777 the Emperor Joseph II. arrived at Geneva under the name of Count Falkenstein. It was a great revolution for the little city. Everybody thought that the Emperor stopped at Geneva in order to see Voltaire, but he never asked for him; when he left, his carriage stopped at a little distance from Ferney, and the postilions asked him if he was not going to Voltaire. He answered angrily that he was not, and bade them go on. Voltaire was waiting for Joseph II., and was quite disappointed. Frederic of Prussia wrote to D'Alembert: "I hear that Count Falkenstein has seen ports, arsenals, ships, manufactories, and that he has not seen Voltaire. Such things are visible everywhere, but a Voltaire appears only once in centuries."

Voltaire, since his arrival in Switzerland, had always wished to return to Paris, but a tacit interdiction forbade it. Louis XV. abhorred him, and nothing could overcome his hatred, not even the prayers of Mme. de Pompadour and of Mme. Du Barry. Voltaire became more confident when Louis XVI. ascended the throne; in 1778 he made a pretext of the rehearsal of a new tragedy, "Irène." He left Ferney and announced that he was going to Paris only for six weeks. Mme. Denis started first, with Mme. de Villette, a young lady who had married the Marquis de Villette at Ferney. Voltaire followed soon afterwards, and was in Paris the guest of M. de Villette. His first visit was to the Comte d'Argental, well known to all those who have read his correspondence. He went to see him on foot, along the quays of the Seine, with the fine fur coat and the fur cap which had been given to him by the Empress Catharine. He still wore the large wig of the Regency, which was no longer in fashion; it is said that the little boys ran after him. Grimm writes that "an apparition could not have caused greater surprise and wonder than the arrival of Voltaire." He became at once the idol of the capital; but the idol was ill, and sent for Tronchin. Voltaire was well enough to attend a representation of "Irène," which was a triumph. He was crowned with laurel in his box, and asked, with tears in his eyes, "Do you want me to die of pleasure?" Moreau le Jeune made a charming engraving of this scene, which is counted among the most marvellous specimens of the art at the end of the eighteenth century. It figures in the catalogues under the title of "Le Couronnement de Voltaire." Tronchin advised Voltaire to leave for Ferney, fearing for him the excitement and the fatigues of Paris. MM. Lucien Perey and Gaston Maugras have been fortunate enough to find the letters addressed by Voltaire during those days to his secretary at Ferney in order to make certain arrangements. These are the last letters he wrote.

Voltaire, at the solicitation of his niece, had taken a house in the Rue Richelieu, but he did not live in it, and died on the 30th of May, 1778. The details of his last moments, of his confession, of his conversations with the curate of Saint Sulpice have been often given. Tronchin, in a letter to Bonnet, says that Voltaire died hard, that death was to him "le roy des épouvantements." He adds in the letter: "I always told him the truth, and I am the only man who never deceived him." Voltaire would probably have lived a few months longer had he remained at Ferney; but the day after the scene at the Théâtre-Français, the Academy sent him a deputation and asked him to accept the functions of director. This direction lasts three months, and Voltaire considered himself bound to remain. Tronchin enters into all these details, and says that Voltaire drugged himself without reason. "He committed all the follies which hastened his death, and which threw him into a state of despair and made him demented. I cannot recall it without horror. . . . Remember the furies of Orestes. *Furiis agitatus obiit.*"

Correspondence.

PRECEPT AND EXAMPLE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: If my theories are tedious, the illustrations of them are numerous and vivid enough to give them practical force. Several now present themselves, which, though starting from different beginnings, all point to one end.

(1.) Last Monday Mr. Dawes made a speech in the Senate upon a resolution to the effect that, as there is no hope of reforming the tariff without hurting somebody, Congress had better not try to reform it at all. He admitted at the start that there was no occasion for the speech, as the matter was in the hands of the Finance Committee, and, besides, that the Senate Committee had no authority to initiate any tariff measure. His remarks, therefore, and those of the Senators who followed him, were mere generalities and completely in the air. He expressed, however, an opinion that the taxes should be first taken off of sugar and tobacco, which, considering the relation of Massachusetts to those articles, and that Mr. Dawes represents Massachusetts only, reminds one of Artemus Ward's willingness that all his wife's relations should go to the war rather than surrender to the South. Every Senator and Representative must speak from a local and not a national standpoint. But the most marked feature of Mr. Dawes's speech was a fierce attack upon the Secretary of the Treasury for "causing alarm and bewilderment to the broad industries that fill this land, by propositions so novel, conflicting, and incompatible," for his "wanton, careless, and thoughtless manner in dealing with industries," charging that "the Secretary's hand is raised in deadly attitude to strike them down," reproaching the Secretary for not going to the manufacturers for information, and sneering at the statists of the departments.

Does it not seem strange that the one man who holds a national position in relation to the finances, and to whom it would naturally fall to submit definite plans for discussion, should be wholly unable to reply to such an attack as this, and, having submitted one written essay which is shelved by being referred to a committee, should thenceforth be condemned to total silence?

(2.) Though the President has, we may think wisely, declined to use private influence with Congress for public ends, I see by the papers that Mr. Carlisle has lately had a private interview with him. But everybody knows that unless the President does use "influence"—that is, offices—his opinions will have rather less weight with Congress than that of an ordinary citizen. The proceeding can only excite suspicion, and is wholly beneath the dignity of the independent executive branch of the Government. The only manly and effective way is to let the President urge his views publicly upon Congress and the country through his chosen finance minister.

(3.) The stock objection against admitting the Cabinet officers to seats in Congress is, that the English Ministry resign upon a defeat in Parliament, and that this cannot be done under our constitutional methods. The letter of your Swiss correspondent is an admirable contribution upon this point. The Executive Council is chosen for three years, and has the right of speech both in the Senate and the House of Representatives, yet neither the whole body nor any of its members feels bound to resign upon an adverse vote in the legislature, but serve out their term of office. The practical results are, he says, that the Swiss Executive Council are elected with a view to administrative ability. Its members need not necessarily belong to one party, while reëlection is rather a rule than the exception, and men of eminence have remained on the Council for sixteen years or more. "Men chosen for business capacity turn out on the whole good men of business"; and, after enumerating their duties, he adds: "These tasks are difficult. That they are well performed is certain, for failure would lead either to internal disturbance or external embarrassments. Switzerland is at peace at home and is neither defied nor insulted abroad."

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I have drawn too often the moral which these things teach to need to repeat it now. They speak loudly enough for themselves. G. B.

BOSTON, December 18, 1886.

THE INTER-STATE COMMERCE BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: As you say in your number for December 16, "there seems to be a determination to pass something" in the way of an inter-State commerce bill, and perhaps "the compromise bill . . . is the least harmful measure that can be looked for." But it does not follow that those who see the crass ignorance and spirit of spoliation out of which this bill springs, should be silent regarding it. The bill, or some one more or less like it, will probably be passed, for it is the legitimate outcome of average opinion. But if, as it must, it result in manifest injury to the business of the country, the time will come when it will be repealed, and every means should be taken to hasten that time.

Any argument on the particular features of the bill, such as the prohibition of pools or the rule adopted known as the short-haul rule, is out of place, because among all persons who take the trouble to read and think before making up their minds, these questions are already settled. The time has come when the matter must be put in this way; for enough testimony on this point, by the first experts in the world, was taken by the Cullom Committee to make it clear that demagogy, and demagogy alone, is the means of inserting these provisions. It may be said once more, however, that if the short-haul principle is adhered to, not a grain of Dakota wheat will reach the mechanics of New York. If distance is to regulate rates, the railroads will have to keep short-haul carriage, which would be made unremunerative, and drop long-haul carriage, to save the bulk of paying business.

What I especially wish to call attention to is this: that the normal development of the finest railway system in the world is interrupted, and is about to be subjected to that official supervision which European countries exhibit. This is simply a defiance of the results of experience. Our own railways, under the guidance of self-interest alone, give better rates and very much better accommodation than any system in the world. In England, Germany, France, Italy, and Belgium, where Mr. Reagan's ideas and similar ones have prevailed in a thousand shapes (each one demonstrating its uselessness in a few years and giving way to the next), the railways are infinitely less accommodating, less efficient, and more exorbitant and irresponsible than they are here, under the restraint of the old doctrines of the common law, and under the guidance of self-interest. During the Granger agitation the Potter railroad law was enacted in Wisconsin. The result was that the railroads of that State were rendered profitless, in consequence of which there was scarcely any railroad building for two years. At the end of that time the law was repealed. This encouraging fact should be kept in mind by the hundreds of thousands of holders of railroad securities in the United States, and by those shippers whose only security consists in the establishment of the pooling principle—the only means of preventing secret cuts and rebates. It should inspire them to protest vigorously against this foolish bill, and to give politicians to understand that pandering to ignorance and prejudice is frequently a very expensive matter. There will be no solution of the political aspects of the railway problem until the million railway investors of the country make it generally known that their rights are neither more nor less than those of other people, and until the people at last become impressed with this complex idea. But even before that time it may not be altogether useless to urge that the making of general rules for railway management, which not an expert in the world would undertake, should not be confided to the pothouse politicians who (according to Mr. Hewitt) dominate in Congress.

CHARLES S. ASHLEY.

TOLEDO, OHIO, December 18, 1886.

THE COMMISSIONER OF NAVIGATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: One of your readers who is interested in a general way in the efficiency of the civil service has looked in vain in your valued journal for some comment upon what seems to be one of the most flagrant violations by President Cleveland of his professions in that regard—namely, the displacement of Capt. Jarvis Patten, late Commissioner of Navigation, to make room for a "party worker" and chronic office-seeker, who, whatever may be his personal qualities, is fitted neither by education nor experience for the position.

Capt. Patten is not an ordinary sailor-man, but, besides being a former ship-owner and a ship-master of many years' successful experience in the foreign trade, is a man of fine education and acquirements and much statistical knowledge. He took up the duties of the new office *con amore*, and has done a much needed work in a manner highly satisfactory to the interests represented. That he is in no sense an "offensive partisan" may be inferred from the fact that Senator Frye is quoted as saying recently that "Patten never was more than half Republican, and may now be a Democrat for aught I know"; and the consequent refusal of that gentleman to take any interest in the matter. It is within the writer's knowledge that the change in this office has met with almost universal disapproval from persons interested in navigation from Maine to New York, regardless of party.

While writing the above, the *Nautical Gazette* comes to hand (issue of December 15), containing several letters pertinent to this matter.—Respectfully, YOUNG DOWN-EASTER.

BATH, ME., December 18, 1886.

PROGRESSIVE TAXATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A noteworthy article in the *Nation* of November 9, on "Progressive Taxation in Switzerland," stated that it would be interesting to see what effect the progressive tax has on the owners of movable property in the Canton de Vaud.

This effect is already palpable; it was foretold successively by M. de Laveleye and by M. Baudrillart in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, by a remarkable essay in the *Bulletin de statistique et de législation*, and finally by the *Siècle*, an unquestionably liberal paper of Paris, which concluded in the following words: "L'expérience du Canton de Vaud mérite d'être signalée. On y voit comment le radicalisme fiscal peut détruire les principaux éléments de la vitalité d'un pays. La République florentine a connu de semblables épreuves, et elle a fini par en mourir." (The Canton de Vaud's experience is worth notice. It shows how fiscal radicalism may destroy the elements of a nation's vitality. The Florentine Republic was acquainted with such experiments, and perished in consequence.)

Now to facts. I could quote several; I select one, the most significant of all. M. J. J. Mercier, the head of an ancient, important, and respected firm, a rich tanner of Lausanne, is moving his huge business—which actually gave employment, if I am not mistaken, to *several* hundred workingmen—from his native place to Evian (France), on the opposite shore of the Lake of Geneva. In a letter, published some weeks ago by the *Gazette de Lausanne*, he explained the important step which he was compelled to take. "Up to this time," said he, "I have paid over twenty thousand francs in State and town taxes. The new law would raise that figure to *eighty* thousand francs or more. I owe it to my family to withdraw out of reach of what I cannot consider otherwise than downright spoliation."

On the budget of a diminutive State like the Canton de Vaud, such a deduction will tell at once. As was lucidly demonstrated in the last "Assemblée constituante" (where the introduction of a progressive tax was discussed and voted)—as was demonstrated, I say, by the conservative orators, and among them by M. L. Rambert, brother of the distinguished writer whose sudden death the *Nation* has recently registered—a progressive tax is absolutely impracticable in this age of cosmopolitan intercourse. Many are the countries where any one may find the same conveniences and resources as at home; and capital, when harassed and ostracized by invidious legislation, emigrates whither it may find rest and security. The close, exclusive, hallowed *civitas*, which made life worth living, for the citizen, only within the precincts of his native town, the privileged territory of his domestic gods, is an institution of the past; and it may be said, in general, that the wide scope of modern civilization has, to a great extent, loosened the grip of local tyrants upon the private individual. Therefore, as long at least as all civilized nations have not joined together in one all-encircling, all-absorbing Socialistic Utopia, progressive taxation is fated to generate national impoverishment. Thank heaven, the demagogic, communistic, and short-sighted innovators who actually rule over the Canton de Vaud, do not, as yet, wield the universal and inevitable power of David's Jehovah! (Ps. cxxxix, v. 7, 8, 9, 10). A. DU FOUR.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., December 18, 1886.

THE NEW SOUTH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In proof of the correctness of Mr. Phelan's representation of the sentiments of the "new South," as given in the *Nation* of December 7, it may be worth while to quote a sentiment expressed last evening by Mr. Maurice Thompson in a lecture before Vanderbilt University. Mr. Thompson fought through the war on the Southern side and was wounded in battle. He lives now in Indiana and knows the best sentiment of both sections. Speaking of the intense interest and sympathy with which the North is watching the South as she works out her destiny, he said: "But is she loyal? I hear some voice piping from a vague distance. Loyal! Let the crucial test come; let some powerful but misguided nation dare menace the old flag that flutters yonder, and the very earth will tremble with the tread of Southern patriots rushing to guard the sacred threshold of freedom."

The audience was perhaps the largest ever gathered in the halls of the University, composed largely of the young men and women of college and city, and the enthusiasm with which this remark was received surpassed anything I have ever seen in Nashville. C. F. S.

NASHVILLE, TENN., December 15, 1886.

THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG MEN BY THE CHURCH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your recent reference to President Robinson's article, "How I was Educated," suggests

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to me that a few plain words on the education of young men for the Christian ministry by the Church might be acceptable to your readers. Leaving out of view the theological seminary, there are valid reasons why the Church should not, save in exceptional cases, help ministerial candidates through the college course. Such help encourages decision for the ministry before the candidate has sufficient age and maturity to know what is involved in the choice he makes, and tempts the indigent young man to choose the ministry as the easiest road to education and its advantages. That the young men are generally sincere enough, I grant; but who of us is master of his motives? Worst of all, those who apply to the Church for help are too often young men of quite second-rate ability, and, it may be, of only negatively good character. Here lies the great objection to the practice I am combating; for it is want of mental and moral force, rather than false ideas of "ambition" as unworthy of them, that makes so many of these ministerial candidates superficial in their college work. Their determination to become ministers, and the acceptance of them as candidates by the Church, rest too little on promise of mentality and general fitness for the work, and too much on their recognition of an indefinable "call," a "feel-as-if-I-ought." Though set apart to expound the teachings of the most difficult of books, the deepest of systems of thought, they leave college wholly unprepared to teach even the simplest subjects. With such men as ministers the Church can only suffer.

But ministers we must have, and how else are we to get them? Young men of more promise prefer other pursuits. A word in answer to this question.

To pay our ministers better would be *one* means of inducing talented young men to choose the ministry, and, if need be, to educate themselves for it as they do for other callings. Self-educated men are numerous in every other walk of life; why not in the ministry? As ministers of the Gospel are now paid in many parts of the Southern States (I am not informed as to the North), the young man that decides to devote himself to the Church, and thus to the good of mankind in general, too often decides thereby to neglect those for whom he is especially responsible—too often assumes new responsibilities at the great risk of being thus rendered unable to meet those he already has. T.

KENTUCKY, December 15, 1886.

DOMESTIC SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Apropos of the crying need of families for domestic help, and the equally urgent need of women for paying occupation, I wish to offer a word for a class of young women, higher than the average domestic, who are urged to follow the laws of supply and demand, and go where they are most wanted. Below are some of the reasons why they do not. A short time ago the following question was raised in the Philadelphia Working Women's Guild, a society embracing some seventy-two occupations: "Why do not intelligent, refined girls more frequently choose house service as a support?" The replies here given are as nearly as possible verbatim.

(1.) Loss of freedom; this is as dear to women as to men, although we don't get so much of it. The day of a saleswoman or a factory hand may be long, but when it is done she is her own mistress; but in service, except when she is actually out of the house, she has no hour, no minute, when her soul is her own.

(2.) Hurts to self-respect; one thing that makes housework unpleasant—chamberwork for instance, and waiting on table—is that it is a kind of personal service, one human being waiting on another. The very thing you would do without a thought in your own home, for your own family, seems menial when it is demanded by a stranger.

(3.) The very words, service and servant, are hateful. It is all well enough to talk about service being divine, but that is not the way the world looks at it.

(4.) Say that a young woman, well brought up, undertakes to do chamberwork; she is obliged to associate with the other girls, no matter how uncongenial they may be, what may be their language or personal habits or table manners. If she tries to keep to herself, the rest think she is taking airs, and combine to make her life unbearable.

(5.) Or say she takes a place for general housework; to be alone in the midst of others is crushing—quite different from being alone in one's own lodgings.

(6.) I suppose a soldier doesn't mind being ordered round by his captain; but in a family the mistress and maid are so mixed up that it is much harder to keep the lines from tangling. It takes a very superior person, on both sides, to do it.

(7.) I knew an educated woman—a lady—who tried it as a sort of upper housemaid. The work was easy and the pay good, and she never had a harsh word; but they just seemed unconscious of her existence. She said the gentlemen of the house, father and son, would come in and stand before her to have her take their umbrellas or help them off with their coats, sometimes without speaking to her or even looking at her. There was something so humiliating about it that she couldn't stand it, but went back to slop-shop sewing.

(8.) Many mistresses have no standard of the amount of work a girl ought to do. They know nothing about housework themselves. If a girl is deliberate, and saves herself, they call her slow; if she is ambitious, and gets her work done early, and they see her sitting down in working hours, they conclude that she is not earning her wages, and hunt up some extra job for her. No matter if you can't find anything undone, if she is found sitting about, she *must* be lazy.

(9.) Some employers think that after the more violent work is done, it is only a rest for the girl to look after the child awhile. They don't seem to realize that if the mother finds it such a relief to get rid of her own child for an hour or so, it is likely to be still less interesting to take care of somebody else's child.

(10.) Many people think the position of a child's nurse is very light work indeed—mostly just sitting round; so they don't hesitate to give her the care of one or two children all day, not even arranging for her to get her meals without the oversight of them; and then most likely put the baby to sleep with her at night. Any one minute of such a day may not be heavy; but to have it for twenty-four hours is enough to wear out the strongest human being ever made.

(11.) I knew a school teacher who thought more active occupation would better suit her health; she took a place as child's nurse. She loved children, and found no objection to the work; but soon the employer concluded to put her in a *bonne's* cap and apron. My friend would have worn and liked a nurse's uniform, but she objected to a family livery. On this question they parted, and her employer hired an uncouth, ignorant woman to be her child's companion, and to give it its first impressions.

(12.) In most houses, however elegant, the girls have no home privacy; they must sleep not only in the same room, but most frequently in the same bed; it is rarely thought necessary to make that room pleasant or even warm for them to dress by or to sit in to do their own sewing. The little tastes and notions of each member of the family, down to the youngest, are provided for; but a "girl" is not supposed to have any. She is just a "girl," as a gridiron is a gridiron, an article bought for the convenience of the family. If she suits, use her till she is worn out, and then throw her away.

(13.) To go into house service, even from the most wretched slop or factory work, is to lose caste in our own world; it may be a very narrow world, but it is all to us. A saleswoman, or cashier, or teacher is ashamed to associate with servants.

(15.) The very words, "No followers," would keep us out of such occupation. No self-respecting young woman is going to put herself in a position where she is not allowed to entertain her friends, both male and female; nor where, if allowed, the only place thought fit for them is the kitchen.

Now the above is not theory, but testimony, taken by the present writer from the lips of intelligent working girls, many of whom would be better off at housework than at their present occupations, except for the objections. And from a consideration thereof results this query: Given a certain number of young women of a class superior to the imported, willing to take service under the following conditions, how many housekeepers would agree to the conditions?

(1.) The heaviest work, as washing, carrying coal, scrubbing pavements, and the like, to be provided for if this be asked, with consequent deduction in wages.

(2.) In families where practicable, certain hours of absolute freedom while in the house; especially with the child's nurse.

(3.) Such a way of speaking, both to and of your house help, as testifies to the world that you really do consider housework as respectable as other occupations.

(4.) A well-warmed, well-furnished room, with separate beds when desired; and the use of a decent place and appointments at meals.

(5.) The privilege of seeing friends, whether male or female; of a better part of the house than the kitchen in which to receive them; and security from espionage during their visits—this accompanied by proper restrictions as to evening hours, and under the condition that the work is not neglected.

(6.) No livery, if objected to.

I am aware that such a systematizing of relations between employer and employed is more difficult in a family than in outside business; but it might be done more nearly than at present; and it is very certain that, until it is done, the ideal service will not be found. A. S.

PHILADELPHIA, December 13, 1886.

WILL AND WOULD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I notice that your correspondent, "E. R. S.," in No. 1117, designates the substitution of *will* for *shall*, and of *would* for *should*, as "the Southern use," and speaks of it as transgressing "the all but universal usage as found in other modern English written speech" than that of the South. Now, I have for many years been in the constant habit of running through Northern journals, and I have rarely read a column of one, the *Nation* excepted, in which this substitution has not met my eye. "E. R. S." is certainly unaware that the corruption to which he refers has been for generations a Scotticism and Irishism. The *Edinburgh Review* once gravely defended it. Doubtless it was owing to the influence of Scotch and Irish elements in the population that the barbarism became established in the South; and the same influence has, of late, led to much the same result in the North. Here in England I rarely

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listen for five minutes to the conversation of a Northerner without being shocked by his misusing *will* or *would*. I may add that a distinguished American philologist assured me, not long ago, that the rights of these auxiliaries were coming by degrees to be as generally disregarded in New England as elsewhere in the United States, and even by the most highly educated. With regard to *would* for *should*, one cannot but infer, from its very frequent occurrence in London newspapers, that exceedingly few of their reporters are Englishmen. In the spoken language the mistake is by no means common here.

If, in the last sentence but one, I had put "*quite* frequent occurrence," it is to be supposed that "E. R. S." would have seen nothing amiss. Similar is his own "*quite* interesting," which, if he would purge himself of Americanisms, he would do well to avoid. An expression of this sort never drops from the pen of an Englishman, with whom *quite* denotes "entirely," "fully." Again, as to "E. R. S.'s" "belittling," the word, apart—or, in American, *aside*—from its perplexing vagueness, is confined to the inhabitants of the United States and a petty scattering of recent English writers who ill-advisedly imitate them.

Your obedient servant, F. H.

London, December 6, 1886.

LIBERTY FOR THE INFINITIVE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: "Language, like everything else in the world, is subject to change," yet we often find those who should most fully appreciate the force of this truth, advocating Swift's strange proposition of "ascertaining and fixing our language for ever." A recent illustration of the old-time solecism of placing an adverb between *to*, the sign of the infinitive mood, and its verb calls forth a protest from Bishop A. C. Coxe in the October *Forum*. The prerogative of *to* has been encroached upon by no less person than the Queen herself, in a speech to Parliament. Mr. Gladstone, like a true Liberal, noting the opportune moment for reform, endorsed the innovation by employing a similar construction, a week later, in his letter to Mr. Bright.

The learned Bishop affirms his right of inquiry by quoting that corollary of Magna Charta, "A cat may look at a king." While the privilege of free speech—saving under conditions of voluntary acceptance, or as regulated by a wise public policy—is a statute of freedom so authentic that no American need plead or prove it, the idea, in its completeness, is so modern that my right to speak needs, perhaps, to be supported by repeating this conservative quotation as applying to myself in presuming to "look" at Bishop Coxe.

With all respect for one whose rare talents have raised him to such exalted rank—and merit is the only rank for which I have even a "decent regard"—I should question the wisdom and fairness of striking off as "illogical and vulgar" every departure from old and uncouth modes of expression that occurs in that ever-changing medium of thought, human language. Were it not that such changes constitute the growth of language, and that we are the gainers by this growth, such criticisms might well be passed over in silence. It is easy to sympathize with a disrelish of change, since the feeling is almost universal. As a result of this prejudice, "custom doth often reason overrule," not only in the use of language, but also in every other department of thought and action. Every one, however, ought to have the deepest interest in the true development of language, and to lift up his voice, though it be but a feeble one, whenever this moulding process is attacked in a quarter where it is doing good work.

Although of a by no means iconoclastic turn of mind, the infinitive has always stirred in me the desire to see it dismembered. Other verbs can, for convenience of qualification, be separated from their signs, their auxiliaries. Why should not the infinitive likewise conform to the genius of our language? In some instances, as after "make" and "dare"—being generally cases where the infinitive has a subject—we omit the "to" altogether as being in the way and an unnecessary load for the verb to carry. In other cases, where usage permits the sign to remain, why should it be suffered to occupy a position of honor immediately preceding the verb, to the practical exclusion of a qualifying word essential to the complete idea of the verb? Since the importance of the object usually requires that it immediately follow the verb, and the peaceable and immemorial occupancy by "to" has preëmpted the other desirable place, the adverb, though often conveying the pith of the thought, is forced into awkward and misleading conjunction with some other word of the sentence. Surely this iron-clad rule favoring the sign of the infinitive is "illogical"; though it must be admitted that no taint of the "vulgar" can be imputed, since error fortified by long-established usage is ever respectable. E. M. D.

St. Louis, Mo., December 14, 1886.

A BOYCOTTED CHURCH.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I have been reading the letters from the subscribers of your excellent journal in reference to the influence which its teachings exert over them, and was induced to consider what had been its effect upon me in moulding and shaping my political, moral, and religious sentiments.

Some weeks ago I was requested to deliver a sermon to the "Knights of Labor," quite a number of whom are regular attendants upon my church. In fulfilling their request I gave mortal offence to some of their most prominent men, because I denounced the "walking delegates" and certain other officials. The consequence has been that they have "boycotted" my church. Your journal is responsible to a great extent for this, but I think we can survive the shock, and trust that "their loss will be our gain."

For several years I have been a regular reader of the *Nation*, and regard it as the strongest and manliest paper that comes into my home. Perhaps I have not become *immersed* in its religious teachings as our worthy "Baptist Parson," but I admit that I have been pretty well *sprinkled*.

Notwithstanding the "boycott," I cannot afford to do without the *Nation*. Enclosed please find check in payment for another year's subscription. Yours, etc.,

Methodist Parson.

Mt. Washington, Md., December 13, 1886.

Notes.

The 'Cyclopædia of American Biography,' edited by Gen. James Grant Wilson and Mr. John Fiske, will begin to be issued by subscription during the present month by D. Appleton & Co. It will make six volumes similar to those of the 'American Cyclopædia,' and portraits will be a marked feature—ten to a volume on steel, and between one and two thousand vignettes altogether in the text. Other illustrations will be facsimiles of autographs and views of birthplaces, homes, monuments, and the like.

D. Appleton & Co. have in press 'The Geographical and Geological Distribution of Animals,' by Angelo Heilprin, which will form the next volume of "The International Scientific Series"; 'The Origin of the Fittest,' by Prof. E. D. Cope, fully illustrated; 'Creation or Evolution?' by George Ticknor Curtis; 'On the Susquehanna,' a novel, by Dr. W. A. Hammond; 'Miss Churchill, a Study,' by Christian Reid; 'Brazil, its Condition and Prospects,' by Gen. C. C. Andrews, formerly United States Consul to Rio Janeiro; 'The Rise and Early Constitution of Universities, with a Survey of Mediæval Education,' by Prof. S. S. Laurie, in the "International Education Series"; 'A Zealot in Tulle,' a novel, by Mrs. Wildrick; 'The Poison Problem; or, The Cause and Cure of Intemperance,' by Dr. Felix L. Oswald; 'The Master of Ceremonies,' a novel, by George Manville Fenn.

D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, will publish during the present week 'Faith and Action,' from F. D. Maurice, with an introduction by Phillips Brooks; 'Common Sense Science,' by Grant Allen; 'A Story Book of Science,' by Lydia Hoyt Farmer; and 'Perry's Saints,' an account of the work of a famous regiment in the war for the Union, by Col. James M. Nichols, with illustrations.

Ginn & Co. promise for January 'A Primer of Botany,' by Mrs. A. A. Knight.

We expect to return to the new edition—and the first to which the public is admitted even partially—of Mrs. Susan I. Lesley's 'Recollections of My Mother' (Boston: W. B. Clarke & Carruth.). We mention it now because it is an excellent gift-book, especially for grown girls, though by no means is its interest confined to them. These intimate revelations have been pronounced "one of the best and most wholesome pictures of our better New England life half a century ago that exist anywhere"; which is the same as saying that they are calculated to elevate and dignify the family of the present day.

The earlier poems of Pope; Monk Lewis's 'Bravo of Venice'; Plutarch's Lives of Demetrius, Mark Antony, and Themistocles; Peter Plymley's Letters and Selected Essays; and Travels in England in 1782, by C. P. Moritz, a Prussian, are among the most recent issues in "Cassell's National Library." Prof. Morley has done well to include this itinerary of Moritz's, which is thoroughly entertaining, not more for what is now obsolete than for that which persists in English character and customs.

Laura C. Holloway's 'Buddhist Diet Book' (Funk & Wagnalls) is a vegetarian receipt-book which has its value irrespective of the Buddhist preparation its use will insure the buyer. The compiler leaves it an open question whether the true believer can use eggs in cooking or otherwise, but for the most part she refrains from introducing them in her receipts. We may improve the opportunity to mention—we can do no more—several larger works of the same class, having, however, no religious end to subserve: the 'Virginia Cookery Book,' by Mary Stuart Smith (Harpers); 'The Unrivalled Cook-Book and Housekeeper's Guide,' by "Mrs. Washington" (Harpers), who calls attention to her 200 Creole receipts, among others; Miss Juliet Corson's 'Practical American Cookery and Household Management' (Dodd, Mead & Co.), with illustrations; the 'Philadelphia Cook-Book: A Manual of Home Economics,' by Mrs. S. T. Rorer, Principal of the Philadelphia Cooking School (Geo. H. Buchanan & Co.); and 'French Dishes for American Tables,' translated by Mrs. Frederic Sherman from the French of Pierre Caron (D. Appleton & Co.). The three largest of these works are suitably bound in glazed cloth for the kitchen.

'The Globe Dictionary of the English Language as it is Spoken and Written, Edited and compiled by Hyde Clarke,' just published by the Aldine Book Publishing Co. of Boston, with the date 1887 on the title-page, is an old book with a new name. It is an unchanged reprint, apparently from old stereotype plates, of the fifth edi-

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tion of Hyde Clarke's 'New and Comprehensive Dictionary of the English Language,' published in London as long ago as 1869.

In a pamphlet, "The Old State-house defended from unfounded attacks upon its integrity," Mr. W. H. Whitmore replies to Dr. George H. Moore's second paper, read before the Bostonian Society in February last. The points in dispute are insignificant, but, however they may be settled, Mr. Whitmore cannot be controverted when, complaining of the personalities of Dr. Moore's argument, he says: "He is especially rancorous when he has an opportunity to assail any person or thing relating to Massachusetts, and he has recourse to ways in vogue in past centuries, but happily since discarded by literary men." We ourselves long ago remarked upon this peculiarity of temper in Dr. Moore, which so vitiates with *Tendenz* his most valuable historical disquisitions.

The seventh annual report of the Harvard "Annex" tells of a surprising increase in attendance—73 against 55 in 1884-85—partly to be attributed to the newly-acquired local habitation. The health of the students has been satisfactory. The demand upon the graduates for teachers has continued, and in other ways it is evident that the School is leavening in remote sections the higher education of women. The tuition expenses are more than met by the income from students, but money is still needed for necessary enlargements of the School building, especially for scientific work, and for other advantages. Some $8,000 had, on August 1, still to be raised for the purchase of the Fay House.

The *Bibliographical Notices, I.*, which Prof. Willard Fiske is on the eve of issuing at Florence, comprises a list of such of his books from Icelandic presses, during the years 1578-1844, as are not enumerated in the catalogue of books printed in Iceland published by the British Museum. For the period in question the catalogue enumerates 170 titles, and Prof. Fiske owns 84 of these. He therefore describes in his supplementary list only 139 titles, or the remainder of the 223 in his possession. From 1845 to 1880, the date at which the Museum catalogue ends, the disparity is still greater in favor of Prof. Fiske's collection.

The Leonard Scott Publication Company, Philadelphia, will hereafter add to their reprints of the British quarterlies the *Scottish Review*.

"Misunderstandings: Halleck and Grant," is the well-chosen title of a weighty and temperate article in the December *Magazine of American History*, by Gen. James B. Fry. Its aim is to demolish the Badeau-Grant allegation of injustice to the latter on the part of Gen. Halleck, and it shows clearly that Gen. Grant's references to this subject in his Memoirs contradict his earlier expressions towards and concerning Halleck, and are not borne out by the documents. A capital portrait of Gen. Halleck accompanies this paper. Under the caption, "Creole Peculiarities," Mr. P. F. de Gournay gives a very pleasant and compact sketch of the development of New Orleans out of the four nationalities, French, Spanish, English, and German, with some remarks on the characteristic traits of the Creoles. The segregation of the several colonies goes far to explain the obstacles to the growth of public spirit in the chief city of Louisiana.

Unwin's Christmas Annual, 'The Witching Time,' edited by Mr. Henry Norman, is even better this year than it was last. Austin Dobson introduces it with some appropriate rhymes, and eight stories and two other poems complete its contents. Most of the tales are of the ghostly kind immemorially associated with the season; Crawford, Laurence Alma-Tadema, Norris, Vernon Lee, and William Archer are names that insure entertainment, and, except for the vampire-horror of Von Degen, none carry on the game repulsively. Natural explanations account for the wonders in most, and in Mr. Norris's contribution the mingling of realism and the supernatural is inexpressibly comical. Some of them have no ghosts, and of these is Mr. Norman's own sketch, well set and well told. In literary merit and in narrative power this Annual is far ahead of rivals for Christmas favor.

The Christmas number of the London *Art Journal* (New York: International News Company) is wholly given up to "L. Alma-Tadema, R.A.: his Life and Work," by Helen Zimmern. The tone of this long article or sketch may be judged as well from this sentence as from any other: "Alma-Tadema's archæological knowledge is admittedly unrivalled, and we may be quite certain that every detail is scientifically accurate." Our reasons for holding the contrary opinion are fresh in the minds of our readers. The reproductions of the artist's pictures accompanying Miss Zimmern's thin and fulsome discourse are of various kinds and of great unevenness, the best being none too good.

In Cassell's *Magazine of Art* for January the opening paper, by Mr. Charles De Kay, is on "Movements in American Painting: the Clarke Collection in New York," with illustrations; and, for the rest, some discourse about Mrs. Siddons, with a group of portraits, is most noteworthy. America again comes to the front in *L'Art* for November 15 (Macmillan), M. Alexandre de Latour having something to say about American Art Museums, in consequence of the article on "The Western Art Movement" in a late *Century*—"une revue mensuelle que l'on ne saurait trop justement louer." The writer sees in the spontaneous endowment of art in this country an industrial danger to France, of which evidence is already visible, he says, in the American art products exposed for sale on the Avenue de l'Opéra. In the December *Portfolio* we remark the fine Amand Durand reproduction of Van Dyck's etching of the portrait of his fellow-artist Jean de Wael, in its first state.

Cassell's Family Magazine for January presents some very instructive views of the changes wrought by the recent tremendous volcanic action in the Hot Lake district of New Zealand. Two lovely "pink" and "white" terraces, such as similar conditions have produced in the Yellowstone Park, were once favorite places of resort, and were pictured in the same magazine four years ago. They are now reproduced, and beside them are cuts of the same sites after the eruption—the very abomination of desolation.

The readers of Prof. Thorold Rogers's 'Agriculture and Prices' and 'Six Centuries of Work and Wages,' who have been interested in his citations from the treatise of Walter de Henley on farming, which Prof. Rogers attributes to the thirteenth century, and which was supposed to exist only in manuscript, will be glad to learn that it has been printed and is not difficult of access. In the "Bibliothèque de l'École des Chartes," 4th series, vol. ii (1856), pp. 123-41 and 367-81, was published a manuscript of the thirteenth century, of unknown authorship, under the title of 'Traité d'économie rurale composé en Angleterre au XIIIe siècle.' In the London *Academy* of October 30 Mr. Bourne of Yale University suggested that this work probably had some close relation to Walter de Henley's, and perhaps was an abstract of it, inasmuch as there was a great similarity in the contents of the two treatises, and many sentences quoted from the Henley manuscript by Prof. Rogers were to be found in the 'Traité.' Prof. Rogers immediately replied in a characteristic letter to the *Academy* of November 6, in which he says that he has compared the 'Traité' with the Bodleian MS. of Walter de Henley, and that they are the same work, except that, besides many variations in the text, the 'Traité' as printed is without the preface which is found in the MS. Prof. Rogers raises one or two interesting questions about Walter de Henley. He has read somewhere that Bishop Grosseteste was the real author of this little treatise, but that he believes to be impossible.

Boussod, Valadon et Cie. have republished Halévy's 'Princesse,' with all the illustrations of *Les Lettres et les Arts*, and upon the same paper, in an edition of fifty numbered copies, only thirty of which are offered for sale. These copies are forty francs each, which is almost as much as the Paris price of the two numbers of the *Revue* containing the story and so much besides.

The Italian copyright law appears to embrace newspapers in respect to the requirement of a deposit with the National Library at Florence. The last number of the *Bollettino* issued by this institution, for example, describes with the greatest technical particularity twelve new journals. Whether complete files have to be maintained, we are unable to state.

The peculiar sunrise-shadow of Adam's Peak in Ceylon has been a matter of note with many travellers. Instead of lying flat on the ground, the shadow appears to rise up in front of the spectator like a veil and then suddenly to fall down to its proper level. Among the various theories propounded to account for this, that of a mirage of some sort has been generally accepted; but in the course of his late meteorological tour around the world the Hon. Ralph Abercromby spent the night on the top of the Peak, nearly 7,400 feet above the sea level, and obtained unmistakable evidence that the appearance is due to light wreaths of thin morning mist being driven past the western side of the mountain by the prevailing northeast monsoon up a neighboring gorge. The shadow is caught by the mist at a level higher than the earth, and then falls to its own plane on the ground, as the condensed vapor moves on. In a paper communicated to the late meeting of the British Association, the thermometric observations of Mr. Abercromby completely disprove the idea that this phenomenon is due to mirage of any kind. It is, in fact, a phenomenon peculiar to Adam's Peak; for the proper combination of a high, isolated pyramid, a prevailing wind, and a valley to direct suitable mist at a proper height on the western side of a mountain, is only rarely met with.

—The new *Scribner's* has a marked individuality which is not confined to its plain, unpretentious covers. It begins, at least, by attempting to carry out its promise to be a literary magazine first of all, to have good reading, and let the text take care of the illustrations. The division of the contents among different departments may fairly be taken to be indicative of the future programme. About one-third of the space is given to fiction, and it is by authors whose reputations are still in the making. Mr. Harold Frederick opens a serial of life in the northern country of New York with some strongly drawn chapters which introduce a group of definite, living characters, detail a good deal of family history, and depict some scenes of a dreary but powerful kind; it is an excellent beginning, but one foresees there is to be more truth than charm in the story. The second serial is by Mr. Bunner, on whom the heavens look favorably, and in this introduction the New York of the first years of the century is picturesquely set before us, and in the treatment one perceives the union of grace and strength which may denote the work of a writer of the first contemporary rank in America. The two short stories have less distinction. Two papers belong to the province of history in its popular form. The extracts from the diaries

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of Gouverneur Morris seem to be the foretaste of a full publication, and they suffer from the lack of skilful handling; the scene should have been placed before the reader, the comment have been less obtrusive, and the extracts continuous. Ex-Minister Washburne's reminiscences of the scenes in Paris before Sedan are interesting, though without vividness: he saw only the *ensemble;* the eye for significant detail, which is the gift of the true historic observer, was not his. Nevertheless, the words of a witness to great events, who is merely a spectator of intelligence and experience, are always invaluable. Dr. Ward's discussion of the Babylonian seals is perhaps not more technical than an archæological article ought to be. Prof. Walker's contribution on Socialism is of the most excellent kind, and must, by its open-mindedness in the main questions, its clear and powerful dealing with definitions of Government action, and its strong conservative sense, do something to free the minds of intelligent and humanitarian thinkers from the confusion that envelops the subject. The poetry is up to the average quality of current verse. Altogether, the number, which makes no attempt to advance the magazine by any sensationalism of text or cuts, is a good omen of the future. The portraits are in the best style of this now highly developed art. A literary magazine of this general character has for some years been needed, and all who are interested in the further development of our literature will wish the new venture entire success.

—The *Atlantic* for January shows markedly an increasing tendency toward short articles. The list of subjects is long, and the papers correspondingly brief. Mr. Hamerton maintains his place as the most interesting writer, and devotes this month's observations on the French and English to bringing out the extent to which Puritanism made England a peculiar country. Before that movement arose the English were still like their Continental neighbors, and now, after it has passed its prime, he thinks they will approximate nearer to the French in national habit and taste. He dwells much on "the Sabbath," and tells an amusing story of an English lady requesting a visitor, who was playing on the violin in his room, to desist, and, on being told that the music was from Handel's "Messiah," answered, "The music might be sacred, but the instrument was not." In connection with this fine distinction he notes also that the Scotch object to sailing while allowing rowing, and says that once when he was indulging in the former recreation in their waters, they thought he ought at least to have taken in his flag—the cross of St. Andrew and St. George. He observes significantly that our literary purity belongs only to the Victorian age, and may be transitory; and to those who object to it as a prudishness which misrepresents life, he replies that it errs no more on that side than the French "lubricity" does on the other, and of the two errors he prefers the English. Other shorter articles are by Edith Thomas, Prof. Sill, and Prof. Hardy—the last consisting of a mathematician's marginal notes, which apply some out-of-the-way reflections, drawn from science, to theology. There is, too, a very sensible paper on children's books, which may fitly be recommended to the attention of all moral instructors. The new year signifies its advent by the first chapters of a novel by Crawford, which opens in Constantinople with good scene-painting laid on with that writer's crude and violent color—but successfully, for all that; and the promised serial story by Mrs. Oliphant and Mr. Aldrich, in partnership, is also pleasantly begun.

— We would particularly call the attention of those interested in the higher education to the discussion of the "Possible Limitations of the Elective System" begun by Prof. Geo. H. Palmer in the *Andover Review* for December. It is a summary consideration of the criticism evoked by a former article of his in the same magazine in November, 1885. A few disconnected sentences will stimulate a desire to read this very vigorous, but equally candid and moderate, paper. "In reality, each college creates its constituency. Its students come, in the main, from the inert mass of the uncollegiate public. Only one in eight among Harvard students is a son of a Harvard graduate; and probably the smaller colleges beget afresh an even larger percentage of their students." As to relieving the University by "persuading our high schools to accept the prescribed subjects of the colleges," or in other words, to become Gymnasia: "The great public schools of England—Eton, Rugby, Harrow, Winchester, Westminister, Cheltenham—are of no higher order than, under the proposed plan, Andover and Exeter would become. From these two academies nearly ninety-five per cent. of the senior classes now enter some college. But of the young men graduating from the English schools named, so far as I can ascertain, less than fifty per cent. go to the University." As to the "rapid and fateful revolution" now going on in the higher education of New England, in proportion to the wealth of the colleges concerned: "The new modes are expensive. It is not disapproval which is holding the colleges back, it is inability to meet the cost." As to the impracticability of uniting elective and prescribed studies: "This is why the younger teachers in all the colleges are eager to give increased scope to the elective studies. They cannot any longer get first-rate work done in the prescribed. . . . If prescribed studies are ever exceptional, ineffective, and obnoxious, they certainly become more so as they diminish in number. A college which retains one of them is in a condition of unstable equilibrium." As between the elective and the group system: "Obviously, for the young, foresight is a hard matter. While disciplining them in the intricate art of looking ahead, I should think it wise to furnish frequently a means of repairing errors. Penalties for bad choices should not be too severe." "One does not feel quite easy in allowing nobody but a lawyer or a devotee of modern languages to read a page of English or American history (see the Johns Hopkins *University Register*, pp. 47-53)." "Confronted with the exigencies of operation, the so-called group system turns into an elective system, with highly specialized lines of study strongly recommended."

—Apropos of therapeutic homicide noticed in No. 1117, a correspondent writes:

"Seeing a friend incurably diseased and yet in anguish long drawn out, men have always felt that cutting short his pangs was a kindness. Yet our English ancestors, while thus hastening a happy despatch for those whom they counted it cruelty to let stretch longer on the rack, seem to have had some conscience qualms. These they quieted, and excused themselves by the ingenious pretence, or superstition, that a sick man could not die if his bed had in it any game (that is, wild) feathers. Some said that pigeon feathers had special power to prolong agony. Accordingly, when a poor soul did not pass away so soon as was expected, friends would say, 'We must change his bed, or, if there is no other bed, we must lay him on the floor.' Others would snatch the pillows from under his head, letting it hang down. Thanks to such kindnesses, his death-struggles could not be long protracted by game feathers. These expedients for keeping friends from being, as Charles II. was, 'an unconscionable time in dying,' are described in *Notes and Queries* (i. 5, 413. iv, 8, 66) as even to this day familiar to English servants and nurses, so that it is unsafe to leave a sick person alone with them. Heroic relief of this sort may well give place to modern anodynes and opiates—'sweet oblivious antidotes.' But if we may justifiably shorten another's life that has become not worth living, he surely has a right to shorten his own. Then the canon against self-slaughter must be repealed, and we must fall back on the Stoic maxim, 'If the house smokes, quit it.'"

— During the winter of 1885-'86, Prof. Angelo Heilprin and Mr. Joseph Willcox of Philadelphia engaged in an interesting voyage in south Florida under the auspices of the Wagner Free Institute of Science, in which the former gentleman is professor of geology. The Institute has just issued the last part of the report on the expedition, containing the "General Summary and Conclusions," by Prof. Heilprin, including the description of a number of new fossils of the pliocene formation of the Caloosahatchee. The researches of the United States Coast Survey, culminating in the relief map of the Gulf of Mexico, gave the death-blow some years since to the theory that the peninsula was due to mud accumulations checked on their way to the ocean by coral reefs. The previously unsuspected elevation of the central ridges of north Florida (some 200 feet) and the researches of Profs. Eugene Smith and Heilprin, Dr. Neill, and various members of the United States Geological Survey, have, within the last few years, given an entirely new aspect to the received opinions in regard to the geological history of Florida, which it is not surprising to find fully confirmed by the observations made on the present occasion. Florida, as far as yet determined, is of tertiary growth, and has grown very regularly and evenly, so that whatever changes of absolute level have occurred, the horizontality of the strata has been but little disturbed. The youngest formations are at the South, where there is a considerable coral tract, which gave rise to the discarded theories. The peninsula has long been inhabited by man, as the fossil human bones of Lake Monroe, found by Pourtalès, and recent discoveries at Sarasota Bay, show beyond question. In the last case the bones were wholly converted into limonite. The beautiful preservation of the fossils obtained and the regularity of the strata will enable palæontologists to follow the development of species from age to age through the Floridian rocks in a manner which, in the broken-up tertiary strata of most countries hitherto studied, has not been practicable. The present publication contains a number of scientific details which will be very welcome to students everywhere.

—A most amusing book for those who have the historic sense strongly developed and love to watch the development of manners and customs and the origin of traditions and by-words, is 'The Curiosities of Ale and Beer' (Scribner & Welford). In this portly octavo Mr. John Bickerdyke has put into shape the notes gathered by the late John Greville Fennell, together with his own accumulations, being aided in the task by a writer whose name is given only as Mr. J. M. D——. In fifteen chapters of simple narrative, free from the faults so common to books of this class—discursiveness and attempted wit—a prodigious mass of information is brought together, and this is made partly available by an index which, however, is not full enough to give all one may want. The author's plunge into the central matter is a pleasant thing to see at the beginning. Before a page has been read we are being taught how to brew beer at home. Having brewed, in imagination, a quart or two of "bitter," we go on to read of the difference between ale and beer, of ancient opinions unfavorable to wine as compared with the English brew; of the origin of barley wine, and what the early specimens of it were like; of Home-brewed, the mighty ale that few moderns know or have ever seen; of hops, a late but a welcome addition to malt liquor; of ancient laws and customs connected with the manufacture and sale of beer; and (for we must

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take breath) of ancient traditions of brewing. Chapter vii compares different kinds of barley-broth one with another, and expresses a characteristic and natural conviction that "our own ales and beers" are "far superior to any brewed in Germany," which the American critic notes with complacency as being himself in a higher sphere of unbiassed judgment and able to appreciate both. Chapter viii has to do with taverns and signs—a long chapter, fifty pages of famous good reading. Chapter ix deals with English festivals and merry-makings. Chapter xi tells of old songs and ballads, though, indeed, there has been a deal of that subject before, *passim*. Chapter xii tells of brewing at the present time, and of the great establishments, Barclay & Perkins's, Alsop's, Bass's, the Guiness brewery in Dublin, which has so recently been turned into a "company" and which is here said to be the greatest producer of malt liquors in the world, and many others less famous. There is only one more serious fault to find with a pleasant book, that it is not in two light volumes instead of one heavy one.

— *Les Lettres et les Arts* (Paris: Boussod, Valadon et Cie.; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons) has been received rather late for November. It is a number that recalls the price at which the *revue* is published. There are but seven articles in all, none of them signed by any of the great names of literature, unless that of M. Ludovic Halévy of the Académie Française can be considered one. But when the reader reflects that it is not quite reasonable to expect every number to be as satisfactory as all those that have preceded, and that an occasional less brilliant issue brings out the beauty of those immediately following, he cannot but turn the leaves with a certain degree of resignation, and a confident expectation of what will be offered in the final number of the present year, and in the initial one of the year to come. If after this he should be attracted by the paper upon "Holbein décorateur," by M. Fernand Calmettes, he will be a very inveterate grumbler indeed if he does not forget all dissatisfaction in the enjoyment of one of the most suggestive criticisms which *Les Letters et les Arts* has ever published. There is a very characteristic story, "Lilith," by an author little known, remarkable, however, both as a writer and a thinker, M. Édouard Rod, a pessimist of the deepest dye, by the side of whom M. Paul Bourget, for instance, is pale. Whether the second and concluding part of M. Ludovic Halévy's "Princesse" will satisfy the expectation excited by the beginning of the story in the October number, is doubtful, but the fine observation and delicate rendering of character are as delightful as ever.

— The publication, a few years ago, of Dr. Wilhelm Heyd's 'Geschichte des Levantehandels im Mittelalter' (Stuttgart, 1879), placed within the reach of students of the Middle Ages the results of more than twenty years of investigation of one of the most interesting topics in mediæval history. Dr. Heyd, in his position as head librarian of the Royal Public Library in Stuttgart, had unusual facilities for such work, and his book shows upon every page that he improved them with extraordinary industry. The edition of 1879 could in a certain sense, as the author remarks, be called the third, since large portions of the contents had appeared twice before. During the years 1858-64 Dr. Heyd published in the Tübingen *Zeitschrift für die gesammte Staatswissenschaft* a series of essays upon the trade of the Italians with the East and with Africa in the Middle Ages. In bulk these amount to about one-half the later history. These essays, revised and enlarged, were translated into Italian by Prof. Müller of Turin, and appeared under the title, 'Le Colonie Commerciali degli Italiani in Oriente nel medio evo" (Venice and Turin, 1866-8). Dr. Heyd then conceived the plan of writing a general history of the commercial relations of the Latin and German peoples with the Levant in the middle ages. In this work, the subject of our note, were incorporated, with additions and revisions, all the previous studies upon the Italian trade save the one on the trading colonies in north Africa from Tripoli to Morocco (in the Tübingen *Zeitschrift*, vol. xx., pp. 617-60), and in addition the trade of the other European peoples was discussed with great fulness and detail. In an appendix of 160 pages was given an interesting critical account of the chief articles imported from the East, the whole forming one of the most complete and learned works ever written in the field of economic history. The narrative is flowing and easy in style, the notes are full, serving as a complete guide to the literature of the subject, which is far larger than one would suspect, while an index of more than fifty pages gives the student convenient access to the multitude of facts stored in the 1,300 octavo pages of these two volumes.

— What may be styled perhaps an *édition définitive* of this great work has just come from the house of Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig, with the title: 'Histoire du Commerce du Levant au Moyen-Âge, Édition française refondue et considérablement augmentée par l'auteur, publiée sous le patronage de la Société de l'Orient latin, par Furcy Raynaud.' The translator informs us that all the materials collected by the author in view of a second German edition have been incorporated in this translation, every page of which has passed under Dr. Heyd's eye. Besides this, certain chapters have been entirely rewritten, and many additions have been made to the notes. The latter assertion is justified very easily by a brief examination of the French edition: even so late a work as Pigeonneau's 'Histoire du Commerce de la France' (Paris, 1885) is referred to several times. The style of the translation is remarkably succinct. Usually translations from the German exceed the originals in length on every page, but M. Raynaud's version rarely if ever does, while its faithful rendering of the German exhibits in a singular degree the capacity of the French language for compact yet lucid expression. The index of the French edition is fuller by several pages, and the volumes are handsomer.

MR. LOWELL'S NEW VOLUME.

Democracy, and Other Addresses. By James Russell Lowell. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1887.

An essay is the freest, an address one of the most enslaving, forms of literary expression. The speaker is subject to the moment, with all that appanage of accident and circumstance which has so commanding an influence in determining what words are fit then and there; and, although an orator gains often from the concentration of life in a memorable hour, and makes it the very stuff of his triumph, the man of letters seldom finds any compensation of this sort possible to him. Such considerations prepare one for what seems a lack of customary freedom in some of these occasional speeches of Mr. Lowell, and for a novel attitude of the author, which may be expressed by saying that he does not talk with you, as he was wont to do, but at you. Tact is an admirable quality, and when one must observe so many and various amenities as a foreign minister who enters into the intellectual and social life of a great nation, it is of incalculable utility; but the necessity to employ it is an inconvenience to the thinker.

In the address which Mr. Lowell made before the Wordsworth Society, for example, his position as the retiring president was evidently an embarrassment to him as a critic, and the windings he makes, not, like Burke, into his subject, but out of it, are a lesson how to tell the truth without making a martyr of one's self, which the most skilled master of literary fence might lay to heart. In the Harvard address, on the contrary, the constraint of the hour was evidenced by the complete liberty of speech which he sensibly accorded to himself: as one in the house of his friends, he magnanimously determined to say his say, irrespective of who might be critical, sure of amiable tolerance if not of cordial agreement. But in an essay he would not have apologized for plain-speaking. The moral is this: that however successful these addresses were, and however delightful in themselves, let us not be flattered into believing that the man of letters can be so admirable as a speaker as he is as a writer, or is ever in so favorable an element as when he is composing a book for the fit audience, though few, which is impanelled silently year after year.

This warning springs from a natural jealousy for Mr. Lowell's literary fame. The address, nevertheless, has proved a fruitful form of expression for his later thought. One would not say that he was in earlier writings characteristically discursive, but the extraordinary fulness of his mind and the restless spontaneity of its action make him seem so. This copiousness was always his, and age has brought a mellower ripeness and more of charm. For a man whose mental wealth is so constituted, and who yet has never shown a disposition to reduce and systematize thought, any literary form which takes the surplusage of the mind and holds it, is sure to be serviceable. This is the essential character of the contents of this volume, which is less a reasoned criticism of books or life or institutions than the overflow of an opulent mind. It would be as impossible to submit such work to criticism as it would be unfruitful; and it is unnecessary to notice anew the traits of style, the felicities of phrase, the charm, eloquence, and humor which are familiar to two generations of our people. The old knowledge how to quote still stands him in good stead, as when he repels Carlyle's sneer that "America meant only roast turkey every day for everybody" by the home-thrust, "he forgot that states, as Bacon said of wars, go on their bellies." The poetic touch, too, is as swift and tender as ever, as in the line concerning the ancient quiet of Oxford, that "the very stones seemed happier for being there," and in the dozen other perfect sentences which, like

"— captain jewels in the carcanet,"

are "thinly placed" in the Harvard address, and of which the tribute to Theocritus is one that shines in the memory. But to point out such matters as these is superfluous, in the same way as to review what is said of Fielding or Cervantes. It is of interest, however, to inquire what is the general temper of mind in these addresses—what things Mr. Lowell has finally found to be of most worth in literature and in life; and to this point, which seems to us at once important and instructive to men of cultivation, we shall confine what little it is our place to say regarding this volume.

In the first rank stands the query, What does Mr. Lowell think of America? Those who listened to him at Birmingham, when he spoke on Democracy, heard him more simply as an American than his auditors here can do: he was a Minister standing for the institutions of his country in their eyes, and justifying them in a speech peculiarly difficult to make because his topic was all but a political issue in the practical sphere. Here the case is different, and public curiosity is alive to his words rather because he is the most eminent representative of that group of cultivated men who are commonly believed, and not without grounds, to distrust democratic institutions and to look askance upon the power of the

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masses. There can be no doubt that Mr. Lowell has faith in our national destiny, as perfect as was ever possessed by a patriot aware of dangers, yet supremely confident of mastery over them. The basis of this belief is nowhere made apparent; it lies deep in those foundations of reverence, of trust in divine purpose, of patriotic and humanitarian sentiment, of emotions strongly stirred in the war time—in a word, it lies, where alone all faith is justified, in character. The address does not help one much who seeks the why of the orator's conviction, though it illustrates the course of his thought when it is exercised upon the subject of popular government in general. It is not, as it has been called, a profound and full exposition of the democratic principle. It has rather the consecutiveness of life than the sequence of logic, as indeed Mr. Lowell himself conceived it, when he announced his purpose to speak from "some experimental knowledge derived from the use of such eyes and ears as Nature had been pleased to endow me." He told his Birmingham hearers what he had observed in the working of his home institutions, spoke of Lincoln and Emerson, who each bore authentically the mould of the democratic spirit, and other things of note; and he drove home this report of things known to him from experience by many weighty maxims drawn from the higher region of philosophy, or thought applied to the general conditions of human life. The sanity of his remarks is the most striking of their qualities; they are altogether free from panic, a liability to which is the political weakness of culture, and they thus keep proportion marvellously. It is with a brief and almost careless stroke that he brushes aside a whole host of confusion when he says: "The last thing we need be anxious about is property." In meeting the objection that to arrive at truth by a count of hands is a transparent absurdity, there is something like humor in his admission of it, while at the same time he points out that in politics it is not truth that is to be arrived at, but a working arrangement; and the count of hands which now prevails as a method of decision is rightly contrasted, not with the balance of wisdom in that never-existing republic where philosophers are kings, but with the historic methods of count of pikes, count of stars and garters, count of dollars. The way in which the speculative intellect, in dealing with questions of suffrage and civil equality, misses the point, through a lack of the political habit of mind, was never more cheerfully exposed. The maxim that it is not the Rights, but the Wrongs of men that make all the trouble, is phrased and rephrased as one shapes glowing metal with strokes of the hammer; and no part of the rational ground work of democracy is slighted.

It is not in these matters, which belong to the past of accomplished fact with us, that the most interesting part of the political spirit of Mr. Lowell lies, for Americans; but in those sentences which look to the future, which deal with wealth and poverty, with the means of satisfying desires which democracy has created, with the possibility of modifying those conditions which are the source of suffering and injustice to the common people, and like themes. He knows the large proportion of woe and want that springs from human nature, and is irremediable except by the regeneration of the individual, but he thinks that something of the burden on the lower orders of mankind is due to defective social arrangements. He is quite sensible of the place of wealth in sustaining society, of its beneficence, and of the increase of conscience in its holders; but he says sharply that wealth bears those burdens "which can most easily be borne, but poverty pays with its person the chief expenses of war, pestilence, and famine," and adds that all the vast charity of well-meaning and laborious philanthropists in the expenditure of money is no more than "as if we should apply plasters to a single pustule of the smallpox with a view of driving out the disease." The bearing of this view of the relative positions of wealth and poverty under conditions which admit of change, is too wide-reaching to be followed out here. The whole course of thought seems to come to its head in his remarks upon Henry George, whose political economy he parries with a witticism, but affirms that he "is right in his impelling motives"; and, not fearful of words, he continues, with a disclaimer of communism on the one hand and of State socialism on the other, "but socialism means, or wishes to mean, coöperation and community of interests, sympathy, the giving to the hands not so large a share as to the brains, but a larger share than hitherto in the wealth they must combine to produce—means, in short, the practical application of Christianity to life, and has in it"—we italicize the words—"*the secret of an orderly and benign reconstruction.*"

The second point which is to be reckoned lies in the literary field. It is no news to say that Mr. Lowell is an idealist. It is, nevertheless, worth emphasizing; partly because he is the fittest to be called as a witness of any public man, and partly because he himself emphasizes the fact strenuously. There is no form of the older criticism that he does not use to give wings or weight, as the case may be, to his words. He draws the distinction as markedly now as in years gone by between the imagination and the understanding, and classifies authors as in one or the other realm. He believes as unreservedly as ever in the higher worth of the imagination, and in its higher function. Coleridge, he says, taught the English mind "to recognize in the imagination an important factor not only in the happiness but in the destiny of man"; and he does but develop Coleridge and those who fed the mind of Coleridge originally, when he says elsewhere, "The most vivid sensations of which our moral and intellectual nature is capable are received through the imagination," or, "We hold all the deepest, all the highest satisfactions of life as tenants of the imagination." He is careful, too, to remind us that when imagination allies itself "as best it may" with the understanding, only lower ends are possible to it. Again, he defines the world of the imagination as "not the world of abstraction and nonentity, as some conceive, but a world formed out of chaos by a sense of the beauty that is in man and the earth on which he dwells." He elucidates the subject further by repeating once more the old idea that the imagination deals with the type. Thus, of Cervantes's characters: "They are not so much taken from life as informed with it; . . . not the matter-of-fact work of a detective's watchfulness, products of a quick eye and a faithful memory, but the true children of the imaginative faculty, from which all the dregs of observation and memory have been distilled away, leaving only what is elementary and universal." And if the reader has patience for another quotation, the character of pure literature—of that cast, as he would say, in the *forma mentis æterna*—was never more nobly and exactly described than where he writes of its works as "those in which intellect, infused with the sense of beauty, aims rather to produce delight than conviction, or, if conviction, then through intuition rather than formal logic, and leaving what Donne wisely calls

'Unconcerning things matters of fact'

to science and the understanding, seeks to give ideal expression to those abiding realities of the spiritual world for which the outward and visible world serves at best but as the husk and symbol." In that sentence lies the whole organon of the higher criticism. If one masters it, he is a graduate of literary art, and there is no department of the works of creative genius to which he does not hold the key of interpretation. But a view of the art of literature which is so pronounced and so frankly set forth by the only critic of the highest rank that our country has ever produced, does not call for more than statement in this place; as we noted the general characteristics of Mr. Lowell's democracy, so here it is our purpose to do no more than direct attention to the principles of his criticism, and to dwell on the prominence he gives to the imagination, on his old-fashioned adherence to the doctrine that the type is the only thing real in an exact sense, and that art consists in identifying the individual with the type, which is the peculiar faculty of genius—its creativeness.

These are the two most noticeable traits of the ripened convictions of Mr. Lowell as made known in this volume—the democratic and the idealistic temper in forms of extraordinary purity. It is evident that he believes in the gods who have fashioned his own clay, and he wishes their power to continue over new generations, because he has experienced its enlightening and civilizing influence in his own life-long culture. At the Harvard Commemoration he was defending his own masters who had brought him to such happy issues of thought, and pleading that the nurture of our youth be still intrusted to those humane studies which were the fecundating intellectual principle of modern civilization. It is natural for him, it is well-nigh a filial duty, to take this view. But have not four centuries of compulsory classical study in our institutions of learning incorporated the immortal part of the ancient culture in our general intellectual life as closely as the Judean religious impulse has entered into our common spiritual life, so that special training in the Latin and Greek may safely be left to the literary class as Hebrew to the clerical class? Plutarch is an inspiring author for the young and strengthening to the mature; but that American whom Mr. Lowell singled out as "one of Plutarch's men," and who alone of our countrymen could support that simple and heroic phrase, was not indebted to "insolent Greece or haughty Rome" for one tittle of his personal greatness. Was that very one whose literary fame braved the classical tradition in that audacious line of Jonson's eulogy—was Shakspere so deeply obliged, in any direct way, to antiquity by virtue of his "small Latin and less Greek"? And as a sign of how wide the stream of Virgil's speech has spread abroad, it may be mentioned that Mr. Lowell quotes often from Dante, but neglects Dante's master. It is not our intention to argue the subject further than by these few suggestions to intimate that the Renaissance teaching need not survive after the work of the Renaissance has been accomplished. Our culture is so permeated with the old wisdom, so articulated with classical canons, so informed with rationality that the new birth of learning may be regarded as complete; one draws on the ancient fountain-head whenever he taps a modern literature, and thereby the necessity of an original acquaintance with the classics for every man who aspires to be liberally educated, is greatly lessened if not destroyed. For the very few who may hope to reach any distinction in refinement, leaders in culture, the men of letters and of art, interested mainly only in the best things produced by the spirit of man, the training by which Mr. Lowell has been moulded will still be needful; it is got, not in colleges, but in the private study. Professors cannot give it, for it is self-imposed, and, after all, it is less a discipline than an inner growth. In what worth of substance it results, in what attractive charm of manner, in what universal efficacy of thought, these addresses illustrate, by the impression they

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make of both the quality and volume of the settled and habitual wisdom of which they are so partial and fragmentary a record. They are a better defence of the rights of humane study than any advocate could frame. The best moral is implicit in things, not explicit in words; and in this volume there is the authentic impress of the classical spirit—age seasons every page, and yet every page is young.

BENJAMIN'S PERSIA.

Persia and the Persians. By S. G. W. Benjamin, lately Minister of the United States to Persia. Boston: Ticknor & Co. Illustrated. 8vo.

MANY of our foreign representatives have as little to tell us of the peoples they have dwelt among as the gruff English captain who, as his official report on the manners and customs of the modern Persians, filed the laconic statement, "Customs, beastly; manners, none." In this book we have the experience of a trained writer and observer, and it is a good illustration of the wiser policy of the Government in frequently giving important diplomatic appointments to men of letters.

Mr. Benjamin was appointed in 1883 by President Arthur to be Minister Resident and Consul-General near the court of the Shah-in-Shah, and remained in Teheran until the summer of 1885. During this time he received many attentions from the Persian Khans, and seems to have enjoyed the especial friendship of the Shah. His official station, together with his own early life in Turkey and his consequent familiarity with Oriental habits of thought, gave him a peculiarly good opportunity for observing the men and manners of modern Persia. His insight into Persian character and his hearty appreciation of the best features of Persian civilization give his work a value above that of the records of most travellers. There is some ground for thinking, however, that the author has taken a rather too favorable view, both of the Persians themselves and of the practical resources and prospects of the country. He seems to have found the Persian gentlemen very agreeable and responsive, in spite of their weaknesses; and, basing his opinions partly on the former glory and strength of the nation, is not without decided hope for the ultimate progress and prosperity of Persia.

The truth is, however, that the Persian gentleman, though he may be very courteous, intelligent, and refined in many of his tastes, is almost always lacking in personal integrity, practises lying as a fine art, and is enslaved by all the sensual brutality of the Orient. The European residents of Teheran will tell you plainly that they never trust a Persian. The Shah himself is, no doubt, a very amiable specimen of the Oriental autocrat; yet this is far removed from the "Good Despot" of the books. As a field for enterprise, the country is utterly discouraging. New projects for developing the resources of Persia interest the Shah and the nobles as toys please children—till they weary of them. The alacrity of ministers and officials disappears when the presents and bribes of the *entrepreneur* cease. The lack of patriotism and the want of moral stamina and serious purpose, evident throughout all classes of the community, stand seriously in the way of any real progress.

Mr. Benjamin was best known in this country as a magazinist and art critic, and his book excels in bits of genre word-painting and in appreciative criticism of the decorative art of Persia. His accounts of his entrance into the country and his different trips among the Elburz Mountains are very readable, and we are especially interested in the descriptions of the country seats and gardens in the cluster of villages called the Shimiran, or "Eyes of Persia." Here on the foothills of the mountains to the north of the city all the wealthier Persian and European residents of Teheran spend the summer, among the shady alleys and beside the artificial streams and pools of water. These carefully irrigated gardens of plane-trees and pomegranates, of jasmines and roses, are but little oases on the broad parched desert, where there is scarcely any rain from April to November. The groves of the Shimiran have been laid out within a few years, and the already considerable area of woodland is believed to have had a very appreciable effect on the climate of the region. The average summer temperature has been reduced several degrees Fahrenheit, and where formerly no rain fell during the summer months there are now occasionally slight showers at night.

The region between the Shimiran Mountains and the city is ramified by the system of long underground aqueducts which supplies all the water used in the city and the gardens. These cannaughts, as they are called, consist of a series of wells dug in a line extending up the slope, and connected at the bottom by a tunnel which brings a small stream of water to the surface lower down. The supply is gradually collected from the ground water—not, as Mr. Benjamin suggests, from the mountain springs and streams, which are dry in midsummer. This method of procuring water, which the author supposes to be peculiar to Persia, is employed successfully in southern California. The engineers call it "developing water," and consider it perfectly feasible wherever the necessity warrants the expense.

In the chapter on the arts of Persia we are told that Persian art is essentially decorative and industrial, and is a true expression of the artistic temperament of the people. Artist and artisan are one, and the advantages of the combination are evident in the abundance of good ornament on objects of ordinary use, and in the great variety of treatment of even the commonest designs. The author does not overstate in the least the widespread influence of Persian design. The best part of Moorish, Saracenic, and Turkish art is undoubtedly of Persian origin. Col. Murdock Smith, in his handbook on Persian art, says that the Alhambra was probably the work of Persian architects. Modern Persian architecture, though quite as ornate and picturesque as Mr. Benjamin describes it, lacks much in the direction of stability and repose, and the execution of even the best work is exceedingly crude. One would think that the Persian architect of to-day never took the pains to study out his design beyond the rough preliminary sketches, and that mason and plasterer worked without supervision. There is a painful lack of conscience and accuracy in all their work which is very disappointing to one who has seen the painstaking toil expended on some of the minor arts. "The beauties of their art, as of their character," Col. Smith writes, "lie on the surface, while the defects of both are carefully concealed by a pleasing lacquer of polished refinement." All but the most important structures are built of sun-dried bricks, the adobe of Mexico, with nothing but mud and straw for mortar. The author says that these walls, fortified at the corners with burnt brick, will last for ages. This must be an oversight, for the houses of Teheran require constant repair, and, if unoccupied and uncared for, will fall to ruin after a few winters. He also says that some of the towers of Rhei, still standing after twelve centuries, are of this seemingly perishable material. With the exception of a stone ruin, there now stands at Rhei only one tower, and this is of burnt brick. There is an illustration showing this curious mausoleum on page 58, and the author says on the following page, "It is probably the tomb of Khalil Sultan, a grandson and successor of Timour Leuk" (Timur Lenk, or Tamerlane). Khalil died in 1409, and the tower is therefore about five centuries old. Of the ancient city of Rhei (or Rhages) itself there is little to be seen but shapeless mounds, and it is hard to follow for any distance the line of the walls.

That Mr. Benjamin has carefully studied the men with whom he has had to deal, is apparent from his happy characterization of the Shah and the court officials. These sketches, enlivened with numerous telling anecdotes of Persian court life and ceremony, will do much to keep the Persian mission from going begging in future. He shows very clearly that the Persian policy is wavering, alternately dominated by Russian and by English influence, though at heart animated by a distrust and hatred of both, and an eagerness to gain support from more distant countries whose ulterior motives the Shah does not fear. That the Russians are now predominant at Teheran is due to the dangerous proximity of the Czar's armies, and to the free use of money by his agents.

Chapters on the Products and Trade, the Conditions of Service, and the Law of Persia, show that the Minister has not neglected the consular functions of his office. Persian law consists of the "Shahr" and the "Urf." The "Shahr" is founded on the Koran, and is interpreted by priestly Mollahs. The "Urf," or common law, is a combination of tradition and precedent, and is administered by secular magistrates. Roughly speaking, the "Urf" is criminal, the "Shahr" civil law, although cases are sometimes appealed from the former to the latter, which is the more sacred and important. The author explains that as the law and constitution of the country are so directly dependent on the Koran, the Shah is forced to maintain the Mohammedan religion as the main prop of his throne. Though the Persians are very loose in their private beliefs, and the country is honeycombed with mystical Sufiism and communistic Babism, yet outwardly they conform to the tenets of the Shiite sect of Mohammedanism.

Mr. Benjamin has written an interesting and valuable book, though we should hesitate to call it scholarly or profound. The material is grouped systematically, and, although the author frequently wanders from the immediate subject in hand, yet any one of the chapters might appear, as several already have done, as an attractive article in a popular magazine. The style is easy and flowing, and the interest is well sustained by the steady stream of incident and anecdote. The author, like most writers on Persia, seems to have invented his own system of spelling Oriental names. This freak would have been less confusing if he had adhered to a uniform method. The wide margins and the clear and well-spaced type, together with the abundance of aptly chosen and carefully rendered illustration, make this one of the most attractive volumes of the present season.

BOOKS ABOUT THE STAGE.

Roscius Anglicanus, or, an Historical Review of the Stage from 1660 to 1706. By John Downes. With an historical preface by Joseph Knight. London: J. W. Jarvis & Son; New York: Scribner & Welford.

The Truth about the Stage. By Corin. London: Wyman & Sons; New York: Scribner & Welford.

Famous Plays. With a Discourse, by way of Prologue, on the Playhouses of the Restoration. By J. Fitzgerald Molloy. London: Ward & Downey; New York: Scribner & Welford.

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Histoire de le Comédie en France, depuis les origines jusqu'à nos jours. Par C. Barthélemy. Paris: A. Dupret; New York: F. W. Christern.

Histoire littéraire, critique et anecdotique du Théâtre du Palais Royal, 1784-1884. Par Eugène Hugot. Paris: Paul Ollendorff; New York: F. W. Christern.

Fêtes et Spectacles du Vieux Paris. Par Édouard Neukomm. Paris: Dentu; New York: F. W. Christern.

L'Incendie des Folies-Plastiques. Par Abraham Dreyfus. Paris: Calmann Lévy; New York: F. W. Christern.

ALL students of the stage are indebted to the accomplished editor of *Notes and Queries* for the admirable reprint of the exceedingly scarce sketch of the English theatre during the last half of the seventeenth century, to which John Downes, the prompter, gave the loud-sounding title of 'Roscius Anglicanus.' Published originally in 1708, it was republished in 1789 by Tom Davies, the biographer of Garrick, who was at once an actor, an author, a publisher, and the husband of a "very pretty wife," as Churchill has recorded for us. Mr. Knight's edition is an exact facsimile of the original of 1708, made, curiously enough, from the same copy which was used for the reprint of a century ago. But the dramatic critic of the *Athenæum* is a more adroit and careful editor than the author of 'Dramatic Miscellanies.' He has availed himself to the full of Davies's labors, and has added much from his own abundant stores of theatrical lore. He has been aided also by Mr. Robert W. Lowe, who is surpassed by none in his knowledge of the details of dramatic biography. Mr. Knight, in his preface, remarks that "in no respect, however, can Downes be regarded as superfluously accurate"; and he proves the truth of this remark by many corrections of the old prompter's negligent assertions. The 'Roscius Anglicanus' is, in a way, a most tantalizing book, for its author omitted to set down much which he knew and saw, and which would now be of the greatest interest and value for us. The period during which he was attached to the theatre is one of most important changes, not to be traced adequately in any other work. "To mention two things only," as Mr. Knight remarks, "it is during the period covered by the review of Downes that the use of scenery began, and that women first appeared regularly on the stage as the exponents of feminine characters." And the literary quality of the plays produced in these forty or fifty years is evident enough when we remember that among them were several of Dryden's, two of Etherege's, two of Otway's, one of Vanbrugh's, and all of Congreve's. 'Roscius Anglicanus' is supplemented by a reprint of the equally rare 'Declaration of the Lords and Commons' against stage-plays, first published on September 3, 1642, and now reproduced in facsimile.

'The Truth about the Stage' is not the whole truth, although one may be willing to concede that it is nothing but the truth as far as the witness is acquainted with the circumstances of the case. "Corin" is evidently a man of no culture, of little education, and of very slight aptitude for the stage, who sought, however, to make his living in the theatre, and who has since thought better of it, as his experience seems to have been thoroughly uncomfortable. He is apparently a perfectly honest and well-meaning man, who has set down in good faith what he has seen and heard. For him the glamour of the footlights has faded, the scales have fallen from his eyes, and he is now ready to burn what once he adored. Beyond all question he had a hard time, and we are inclined to believe that "going on a tour" is a hard road to travel, except for the star in his private car. He began "at the bottom of the ladder," where all histrionic aspirants are advised to begin, and he was never able to mount even the second round. He found the life of the strolling player unceasingly laborious and indisputably degrading. He presents one view of one side of the present condition of the English theatres with great force, although with no literary skill. We should be sorry to believe that his sorrowful experience was universal or even common; but his record is an excellent book to put in the hands of any young man who happens to be stage-struck.

Mr. Fitzgerald Molloy is almost as happy as Mr. Percy Fitzgerald in hitting on good subjects, and almost as careless in the way he carries them out. Mr. Molloy's Life of Peg Woffington is even more slovenly in its execution than Mr. Fitzgerald's Life of David Garrick; of both books it may be said that they are interesting in spite of their authors. Mr. Molloy's latest book is much what might be expected. It contains brief biographies of eight dramatists (Congreve, Addison, Gay, Dr. Johnson, Goldsmith, Sheridan, Sheridan Knowles, and the late Lord Lytton), with accounts of the circumstances under which their chief plays were written and performed. Of Addison's "Cato" and of Dr. Johnson's "Irene," both undramatic plays by men who were not dramatists, Mr. Molloy writes without revealing any distinct understanding of the real merits and demerits of these tales in dialogue. Of Congreve and Gay, of Goldsmith and Sheridan, he tells again the twenty-times-told tale, adding nothing of his own save a few needless blunders, but rattling along with a happy-go lucky and devil-may-care ease not altogether without charm. We may note that Mr. Molloy prefixes a formidable list of books and pamphlets consulted in making the book—a list at once grossly inaccurate and hopelessly inadequate; he does not, for example, avail himself at all of the investigations of Sheridan's latest biographer and editor. Quite the best part of 'Famous Plays,' and by far the most useful and welcome, is the final quarter, wherein the author breaks comparatively new ground, and tells us about Sheridan Knowles's "Virginius" and the "Hunchback," and about Lord Lytton's "Lady of Lyons," "Money," and "Richelieu." There is no index.

M. Barthélemy's history of comedy in France comes to us from the publisher of the new *Revue d'Art Dramatique*, which we have taken pleasure in praising, but it is not worthy of the association. A good history of French comedy in a single volume is a work greatly to be desired. M. Barthélemy has not provided us with it. He is perfunctory and uncritical. His is rather an easy-going compilation by a well-read man than a genuine book made by an author understanding the principles of the drama, and familiar with the best that has been written for and about the theatre. Especially flabby in its criticism is the final chapter on the Romantic movement and the realist reaction of the present day.

In "Foyers et Coulisses," the series of little books published by Tresse & Stock, there was already a history of the Palais-Royal Theatre, but M. Hugot's is none the less welcome. In the abundance of books about the stage, there is a lack of local histories, so to call them—of histories of single theatres like the Théâtre-Français and the Porte-Saint-Martin in Paris, Drury Lane and the Haymarket in London, Wallack's in New York, and the Museum in Boston. M. Hugot is not an ideal historian; he is both careless and prejudiced. He points a paragraph on the failure of a play of M. Sardou's with a remark about the success of a *revue* of which he was himself part author (p. 220); and he reveals an unmistakable and altogether misplaced dislike of M. Labiche, the author of the most successful and most amusing plays ever acted at the Palais-Royal. But, although he does not show a tithe of the philosophic grasp of the subject to be seen in M. Sarcey's little sketch of the same theatre, contributed to the *Nineteenth Century* and the *Revue Bleue* several years ago, he has written a book likely to be useful. We may note a strange blunder on p. 285, where "Le Prix Martin" of MM. Augier and Labiche is credited to MM. Labiche and Gondinet.

M. Neukomm's 'Fêtes et Spectacles du Vieux Paris' is a mere piece of book-making got ready for the midsummer festivals of a few months ago. As the material is very rich, the result is not uninteresting, although the compiler has not shown either special competence for the task or special care in its execution. It reads as though it were a hurried collection of hastily written newspaper articles.

The readers of M. Abraham Dreyfus's delightful 'Scènes de la vie théâtrale' will need no advice to get his second collection of theatrical sketches, called, after the first and longest, 'L'Incendie des Folies-Plastiques.' There is a sharp brilliancy and a certainty of touch about these little studies of life before and behind the curtain which give them an extraordinary relief. Those who think that the modern Frenchman is deficient in humor may be recommended to read 'La Matinée d'un Critique'—the critic being obviously M. Sarcey, whose library-study is adroitly suggested, and whose turns of style are most comically exaggerated. But perhaps the slight and simple sketch of 'Le Second Régisseur' is the best thing in the book; its pathos is fresh and unforced.

THE DUCHESS OF TOURZEL.

Memoirs of the Duchess de Tourzel, governess to the Children of France during the years 1789, 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1795. Published by the Duc des Cars. 2 vols. London: Remington & Co.; New York: Scribner & Welford. 1886.

THE title of Madame de Tourzel's Memoirs is by itself sufficient evidence of the extreme interest and importance of the publication. We have here a picture of the life of the royal family of France through the most stirring scenes of the Revolution, from the hand of a member of the family itself. The events of the 5th and 6th of October, the journey to Varennes, and the terrible experiences of the 20th of June, the 10th of August, and the 2d and 3d of September, as well as the 13th Vendémiaire, are narrated in full detail, and with the most vivid delineation, by one who was not merely an eye-witness, but herself a participant. It is not too much to say that it would be hard, in the most sensational romance, to find a narration fuller of thrilling incident than the account here given of the escape of Madame de Tourzel and her daughter Pauline from the horrors of the September massacre.

These memoirs had for a long time been known to exist, but until a few years ago the descendants of the author, in whose hands they were, refused to have them published. The reasons for this refusal are easy to understand. Why these reasons ceased to exist—why "the moment seems propitious" for their publication—we are not told, but here, too, we cannot be wrong in our surmise. It is but a moment since the passage of the decree banishing the royal princes from France, and a well-known passage in the manifesto of the Comte de Paris finds an echo in the following words of the introduction (p. 15): "So it will be until the day when disillusionized France shall understand that she must repair the broken chain of her secular traditions if she does not wish, after having been the first among civilized peoples, to become a sad example of the decay into which nations are dragged by reason of their abandonment of all great political

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and religious principles." This is, therefore, a book with a *tendency;* and by saying this, we do not wish to condemn its motives or to undervalue its historical importance. Rather, it enables us to estimate more justly its historical value. This value consists in the inside view of the royal family and the events in which they were concerned, which makes this document indeed "unique of its kind," and not to be "compared with any of those comprised in the rich collection of memoirs relating to the French Revolution." The simple honesty of the King, joined with a fatal infirmity of purpose, stands clearly before us, and one feels—as every student of the French Revolution must feel—that it was largely this want of kingly qualities that was fatal, not only to himself and his family, but to his country; an hereditary king is not a guarantee for the maintenance of order. So, too, Marie Antoinette stands clearly before us, more kingly than her husband, a strong, as well as an upright character; but the reader has no opportunity to mark that inborn haughtiness of the daughter of the Hapsburgs which made her so detested in spite of her virtues —a quality as fatal, we suppose, as Louis's lack of will. Of the Dauphin we have a charming picture. His governess may be pardoned if his virtues are more conspicuous and his faults less noticeable than perhaps they really were. But the picture is, no doubt, in the main correct; a combination of the winning, intelligent, not over-precocious child, with the dignity and self-reliance of the born king. Perhaps if he had lived, we should have had a ruler who inherited from his mother enough of the Hapsburg temper to be masterful without being arrogant.

Along with this picture of the royal family we have a current history of the times; and here we see on every page the aristocratic temper which was incapable of understanding the real grievances and needs of France, or even of appreciating the differences of temper and motive in the several popular leaders. Necker, Mirabeau, La Fayette, Bailly, Barnave, Pétion, Roland, Vergniaud, Robespierre, Danton—all are alike the object of hatred and scorn. The reality of abuses, and any honesty of purpose in remedying them, are never so much as hinted at. All members of the "Left" are "rebels" and "miscreants." This sentiment, which runs through the book, is in itself an historical fact of great importance. We see that from the first there was no possibility of an understanding between a court which would admit no need of reform, and an assembly which could see no good in the existing state of things. That the King honestly endeavored to adapt himself to the successive constitutional changes to which he was forced to give his consent, and that men like La Fayette had an ideal of government which should secure an effective reform without giving up its hold upon tradition, or sacrificing vested interests, were facts of no potency in the face of the real underlying contest. Neither the King nor La Fayette had the moral force which alone could have made them masters of the situation, and the only man of the time who possessed at once the requisite ability, strength of will, and moderation—Mirabeau—died just when these qualities were most needed. Even if he had lived, he lacked another quality quite as essential—that sincerity and singleness of purpose which alone could inspire confidence and give assurance of success.

Another fact brought out incidentally in this account is the gradual transformation of public opinion. We have been taught by Taine's writings to look upon the French Revolution as the work of a small minority, very much in earnest, while the mass of the people of France were either indifferent or secretly hostile. We must say that this book does not give this impression; and while we would not assert that a purely one-sided account like this is to have greater weight than all the evidence that M. Taine has accumulated, it appears to us nevertheless to be entitled to a good deal of consideration. The reader receives an impression in the early chapters wholly corresponding with Taine's view, and confirmed likewise by Lord Gower's recently published despatches, that down to the time of the King's flight, and even all through 1791, the constitutional party was not only in possession of power, but had the support of a decided majority of the people. But after this—no doubt largely the result of the distrust inspired by the flight, and the irritation caused by the Declaration of Pilnitz—one seems to see a real revolution in sentiment; and it is hard to believe that, except in such reactionary districts as La Vendée, there was in the summer of 1792 any hearty monarchical sentiment. Of the genuineness of the republican sentiment there can be no question; it was fanatical, crazy, grotesque, and the best proof of its thorough earnestness and its belief in the King's bad faith is found in the circumstances of the massacre of September. We notice in this narrative what has been so often pointed out—the strange union of ferocity in the immolation of the victims and of hearty delight when any one was acquitted. They were, in all seriousness, offering a sacrifice to the cause of liberty; but as men they rejoiced whenever the sacrifice could be spared. Remarkable, too, is the fact (vol. ii., p. 224) that on the 10th of August there was no plundering by the mob—only destruction.

It is interesting to know that Mme. de Tourzel believed firmly in the death of Louis XVII. Her reasons for this belief, although resting upon second-hand evidence, are very strong, and sufficiently explain her constant refusal to allow interviews to the various pretenders who undertook to pass themselves off for the Prince. She was "unwilling to lend herself to a manœuvre from which it might have been assumed that she was not convinced of the death of the young Prince." The evidence consists in, first, the testimony of Dr. Jeanroi, who assisted in the post-mortem examination, and who, although previously unacquainted with the Dauphin, at once recognized a portrait in her possession; secondly, the recognition of a bust of the Prince, by Pelletan, the surgeon in charge at the time of his death; and, thirdly, an examination, which she had accidentally an opportunity to make, of the register containing the diary of the Commissioners, in which she "saw the progress of his malady, the details of his last moments, and even those relating to his burial" (vol. ii., p. 324).

Among the many significant actions and utterances of the royal family, perhaps the most striking is the remark of the King, on the road to Varennes, when he supposed that he was fairly out of danger of capture: "Here I am, outside that town of Paris, where I have experienced so much bitterness. You may be quite sure that when I am once firmly seated in the saddle, I shall be very different from myself as you have seen me up to now" (vol. i., p. 329). He proceeded to speak of what he would do, and among other things of "the possibility of reëstablishing religion and repairing the evils which his compulsory sanctions might have caused." We have no reason to doubt the King's word when he declared that he had no intention of leaving France, or of associating himself with foreign enemies; but, if he had reached Montmédy, could he have helped doing so? He was not a man to take the reins in his own hands; is it not morally certain that if he had once joined his brothers and his brother-in-law, he would have become a mere tool in their hands for the reëstablishment of all the despotism and intolerance which had been abolished? We do not say that this would not have been preferable to what did actually take place. What we do say is, that the leaders of the Revolution—who, we must remember, were still of the school of La Fayette—were fully justified in regarding his flight as an act of hostility, and as proving that he did not intend to carry out in good faith the reforms which had been enacted. It would have been a very different thing, an action wholly consistent with good faith, if he had done as he was urged to do at the festival of the Federation, the summer before (July, 1790). "If the King had taken advantage of this opportunity to take a trip through his provinces, and had announced at this review that he was about to respond to the wish expressed by the mouths of their deputies; if he had chosen to dispense with all other guard than the inhabitants of the places he was about to visit; and if he had elected to be accompanied in his visits only by the good Federates who evinced such attachment for him, he would have disconcerted the Assembly, and would have placed it in the position of being dependent on his good-will" (vol. i., p. 166). This view is confirmed by the remark made by Barnave to Madame Elizabeth on the return from Varennes: "Ah! Madame, do not complain of this epoch [the Federation], for if the King had known how to profit by it, we should all of us have been lost."

The translation is excellent, but with an occasional inaccuracy. *Château* is always translated "castle," while with regard to the Tuileries "palace" would be more proper. So we have "charts" for "charters" (vol. i., p. 132), "forfeiture" for "misdemeanor" (*forfaiture*) (p. 79), "pretended" for "claimed" (p. 190); and everywhere "transpired" for "occurred."

Richard Wagner. Sa Vie et ses Œuvres. Par Adolphe Jullien. Paris: J. Rouam.

It seems paradoxical that the most interesting and complete biography of Wagner hitherto placed in the market should come from France, where his "Tannhäuser" was hissed without being heard, and where ever since a strict quarantine has been observed against his operas. But Pasdeloup and other concert-givers have been constantly producing selections from Wagner's works, the effect of which has been not only to create a large circle of Wagnerites in Paris, but to make the performance of "Lohengrin," at any rate, an imperative necessity within a year or two. "The only thing that the theatres of Paris dream of at present is the performance of Wagner's works," says M. Jullien, and he hints that the greatest obstacle at present is not so much the managers' fears of "patriotic" rows, as the fears of the official composers connected with these theatres for their own works.

M. Jullien evidently feels humiliated at the silly attitude of his countrymen, and he endeavors in various ways to combat the patriotic prejudice against Wagner. Among other things he shows that Mozart, although infinitely better treated by the French when he visited them than Wagner, retaliated by calling them in his letters donkeys, fools, boobies, and *patauds.* These words have been carefully suppressed by Mozart's French admirers and biographers. M. Jullien might have made his case still stronger by putting some of Wagner's complimentary utterances on French music in parallel columns with his tirades against many German musicians and their works.

M. Jullien is a Wagner enthusiast, but this does not prevent him from dwelling on Wagner's personal foibles and mistakes. His object is to write as if Wagner had died centuries ago. One of the most curious chapters in his book is one in which he shows how Rossini and Auber apparently quizzed Wagner, who naïvely took them seriously. From Glasenapp's biography of Wagner, Jullien's differs favorably by the absence of all

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bombastic declamation, and a much better style and love of facts. Glasenapp's analyses of Wagner's æsthetic treatises are more complete, but Jullien's analyses of Wagner's operas and music-dramas are singularly clear and readable; and they are rendered the more interesting by a large number of pictures, illustrating scenes in these operas as first brought out, at Dresden, Munich, and Bayreuth. M. Fantin-Latour also contributes fourteen lithographs of fanciful situations taken from the operas. There are no fewer than fifteen portraits of Wagner, of various periods, some of them unique and rare. There are pictures of the house in Venice in which Wagner died, as well as of his Bayreuth villa, and several of the Wagner Theatre inside and outside. One of the most curious pictures is a back view of the Rhine maidens swimming about under the Rhine, showing the mechanism by which this marvellous illusion was accomplished. Scattered through the text are a vast number of caricatures taken from French, German, and English comic papers. Wagnerism has passed the stage in which such caricatures could do it any harm, or annoy any one; indeed, M. Jullien justly reasons that caricatures are the best of advertisements, bringing a man to the notice of thousands who would never take the trouble to read an article about him. One of the best of them represents Wagner in heaven, listening to the harp-chorus of the angels, and suggesting that they could produce more effect by adding drums and trombones. Another one, by Oberländer, represents an audience on a night when the composer is present. All the box occupants are doubled over, those in the parquet turned round, each with an opera-glass; the musicians play by heart, looking at the composer, and even the prompter appears on deck with a glass.

As we are in the midst of the most successful Wagner campaign ever known in New York, M. Jullien's work will probably find all the purchasers he desires. For a holiday gift to a musical person, or for a parlor-table ornament, nothing more desirable could be found.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Adams, O. F. November. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. 75 cents.
Besant, W. The World Went Very Well Then: A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 25 cents.
Budge, E. A. W. The Book of the Bee. [Documents from Oxford Libraries. Semitic Series. Vol. I. Part 2.] Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan.
Campbell, W. L. Civitas: The Romance of Our Nation's Life. G. P. Putnam's Sons.
Chenevière, A. Bonaventure des Périers, sa vie, ses poésies. Boston: Schoenhof.
Craik, D. M. About Money and Other Things. Harper & Brothers.
Dewey, Prof. J. Psychology. Harper & Brothers.
Fabre, Ferdinand. Madame Fuster. Boston: Schoenhof.
Farjeon, B. L. The Nine of Hearts. A Novel. Harper's Handy Series. 25 cents.
Green, Anna Katharine. Risifi's Daughter: A Drama. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.00.
Hawels, Rev. H. R. Christ and Christianity. The Picture of Jesus (the Master). T. Y. Crowell. $1 25.
Hugo, V. Les Misérables. With illustrations from designs by eminent French Artists. In 5 vols. Vols. ii. and iii. George Routledge & Sons.
Langland, W. The Vision of William concerning Piers the Plowman, in three parallel texts. Together with Richard the Redeless. Edited from numerous manuscripts, with preface, notes, and a glossary, by the Rev. Walter W. Skeat. 2 vols. Macmillan & Co. $8.00.
Lemaitre, Jules. Sérénus: Contes d'autrefois et d'aujourd'hui. Schoenhof.
Mason, E. O. Sketches and Impressions, Musical, Theatrical, and Social (1795-1885). G. P. Putnam's Sons.
Mattnews—Hutton. Actors and Actresses of Great Britain and the United States: The Present Time. Cassell & Co. $1.50.
Nisard, Désiré. Nouveaux mélanges d'histoire et de littérature. Boston: Schoenhof.
Norris, Mary Harriott. Dorothy Delafield. Phillips & Hunt.
Oliphant, T. L. K. The New English. 2 vols. Macmillan & Co. $5.25.
Plimton, F. B. Poems. Illustrated. Cincinnati: Mrs. F. B. Plimton. $2.00.
Richepin, Jean. Braves gens. Boston: Schoenhof.
Rodenbough, Gen. T. F. Uncle Sam's Medal of Honor: 1861-1886. Illustrated. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2.00.
Skottowe, B. C. A Short History of Parliament. Harper & Brothers.
Stevens, H. The Dawn of British Trade to the East Indies, as Recorded in the Court Minutes of the East India Company, 1599-1603. London: Henry Stevens & Son. $4.50.
Stickney, J. H. Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales. 2d series. For school and home use. Boston: Ginn & Co. 45 cents.
Symons, A. An Introduction to the Study of Browning. Cassell & Co. 75 cents.
Thackeray, W. M. The Mahogany Tree. Illustrated. Boston: S. E. Cassino.
The Song of Songs (Revised Version). With 26 etchings after Bida. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.
Villars, P. England, Scotland, and Ireland: A Picturesque Survey. Translated by Henry Frith. George Routledge & Sons. $10.00.
Walker, Gen. F. A. History of the Second Army Corps in the Army of the Potomac. With portraits and maps. Charles Scribner's Sons.
White, W. S. Contributions to the History of the Richmond Howitzer Battalion Pamphlets 1, 2, 3, 4. Richmond: Carlton McArthur & Co.
Whitney, Mrs. A. D. T. Homespun Yarns. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.50.
Wickham, E. C. Selected Odes of Horace. Macmillan & Co. 50 cents.
Wiggs, Anna Oldfield. Apple-Blossoms: A Novel. Chicago. A. E. Davis & Co.
Wilkeson, F. Recollections of a Private Soldier of the Army of the Potomac. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.00.
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